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History of Armenia,

BY

NEWTON REED.

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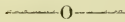
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INDEX.



The names of the Early Residents and of the Subscribers to the Roll of Honor are placed in alphabetical order in the book, and are therefore left out of the Index.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Adams, Elisha, 27, 37
 John, 78
 Josiah, 78
 Adams' Mills, 27, 78, 125
 AGRICULTURE, 132
 Allen, Ehjah, 37
 Ethan, 46, 63, 67
 Allerton, Dr. Cornelius, 16, 79
 Dr. Reuben, 16, 42, 62, 67, 78
 Archibald, 78, 136
 David, 78
 Isaac, 34, 78
 Jonathan, 78
 Samuel, 78
 Allsworth, James, 13, 78
 Amenia Precinct, 5
 Union, 18, 39
 Amenia, Name of, 45, 46
 South, 39
 Andrews, Barzilla, 62
 Roger, 79
 Aretson, John, 6
 Asbury, Bishop, 36
 Assembly, Members of 49
 ASSOCIATORS, 53
 Atherton, C., 65, 67, 79
 James, 78, 79</p> | <p>Barlow, Deacon Moses, 41, 42, 47, 79
 Nathan, 65, 79
 Peleg, 79
 Thomas, 129
 Baptist Church, 33
 in N. E., 34
 Baptisms, 42
 Barker, Jacob, 110
 William, 47, 49, 62-4, 79, 136
 Barret, Rev. John, 40, 43, 67, 141
 Bartlett, Daniel C., 62, 68
 Beach, J. W., 142
 Zerah, 120
 Beebe, John, 47
 Bell, Wm., 37
 Belden, Deacon Joseph, 81
 Silas, 42
 Taber, 49
 Benedict, Benjamin, 32, 47
 John, 63
 Samuel, 63
 Benson, Hon. Egbert, 46, 48, 73
 Benton, Joel, 49, 129
 Bird, Moor, 127
 Rev. Isaac, 84
 Blonnt, Wm., 62, 64
 Bockee, Justice, 115
 Abraham, 27, 43, 47, 49, 50, 53
 Boka, 48
 Bokee, Jacob, 49, 56, 52, 68, 117
 James, 49</p> |
|---|---|

INDEX.

- Bokee, Phenix, 28
 Bouquet, Henry, 83
 Bockee on Slavery, 115
 Bostwick, Wm. II., 49
 Boughton, Sampson, 6
 Boughton, Sampson & Co., 14
 Grant to, 15
 Boradll, Anne, 107
 Boyd, John, 19, 42
 House of, 144
 Bradley, Leman, 126
 Brown, Tristram, 22
 Gen., 44
 Joel, 49
 Brownson, John, 79
 Bronson, John, 32
 Brush, Jesse, 62, 63
 Col. Henry, 84, 136
 Col. John, 50, 136
 William, 63
 Bryant, Amos, 49
 Buel, Grover, 32
 Col. Nathaniel, 64
 Burritt, Rev. Blackleach, 27
 Burton, Judah, 62, 69
 Bump, Jedidiah, 42, 65
 James, 62
 Burial Places 145,

 Cady, 28
 Camp, East, 15, 16, 120
 Canfield, Judson, 124
 CANAL SHARON, 128
 Cantelon, Major De, 63
 Canterbury, 79
 Carmel in Nine Partners, 30
 Carpenter, J. B., 50
 B. Platt, 50
 Joseph, 63
 Justice, 115
 Castle, Daniel, 42
 Gideon, 42
 Inn of, 119
 Chamberlain, 28
 Joseph, 42
 Colbe, 42, 48, 62, 63
 Dr. John, 48, 65
 Dr. William G., 114, 129
 Capt. William, 53, 62, 65, 68, 69
 Calvin, 127
 Conrad, 62
 Chicomico, 11
 CENTENNIAL, 54
 Child, Increase, 62, 64, 69
 Dr. Joseph, 87
 CHURCH, CITY, 37
 Church, Hon. Samuel, 22, 27
 CIVIL LIST, 48
 CITIZEN'S NAMES TO THE PLEDGE, 55
 Clapp's Patent, 79, 133
 Clapp, 133
 Clark, Bishop, 141
 Cleaveland, Elisha, 26
 Clinton, Gen. James, 64
 CIVIL ORGANIZATION, 45
 Clark, Hiram, 13
 Clive, Peter, 62, 65
 John, 42
 Cloth Dressing, 123
 Coal, Price of, 127
 Lehigh, 129
 Colfax, 24
 Cochran, Rev. Samuel, 36
 Colden, C., 6, 15, 100
 Coleman, A., 90
 Collins, Capt. David, 27, 77
 Hon. J. F., 89
 Collins, Burying Place of, 146
 Committee of Safety, 53
 Conklin, Henry, 49
 Nathan, 62
 Congdon, John, 63
 Conference, M. E., 36
 Conquest of Quebec, 46, 106
 Cook, Joab, 32
 Simeon, 32, 61, 62, 63, 67
 Cornwall, Rev. John, 37, 38
 W. B., 50
 Cotton, Rev. Dr., 26
 Creed, Wm., 6
 Crosby, Dr. Cyrenus, 49, 90, 139
 Crum Elbow, 45, 85, 133
 Croton Water, 127
 Culver, Backus, 90
 Cummings, Rev. Dr., 141
 Curtis, John, 37
 Ruth, 146

 Danbury, Burned, 69, 98
 Dakin, Simon, 27, 34, 90
 Caleb, 90
 Darrow, Isaac, 48
 Davis, 28
 Rev. Sheldon, 12
 M. L., 110
 Davies, William, 125
 Rev. Thomas, 90
 Delano, Benjamin, 65 - 57
 Thomas, 41
 Delamater, Claude, 22
 Jacob, 22
 Capt. Isaac, 22, 23, 62, 69
 Benjamin, 23, 42
 John, M. D., 24
 Martin, 23, 42
 Col. Anthony, 136
 Houses of, 23, 144
 Delavergne, Dr., 92, 139
 Denton, Benjamin, 37
 Joel, 63
 Dewey, Jed., 32
 Dorr, 24, 109
 Doty, David, 63-5, 70, 139
 Reuben, 63, 65
 Samuel, 41
 Ellis, 42
 Dover, 7
 Dubois, Col., 64, 68
 Dunham, John, 110
 Samuel, 52, 126
 Dutcher, Derrick, 22

 Edget, Lieut., 63, 64
 Ellis, 127
 Emmott, James, 6
 Eno, Stephen, 91
 Evarts, W. M., 24
 Evartson, Jacob, 48
 Admiral, 92
 Slaves of, 117
 House of, 145
 Everitt, Dr., 139
 Equivalent Land, 6

 Federal Store, 125
 Co., 125
 Bridge, 125
 Filkin, Henry, 6
 Flint, Jabez, 62, 69
 Forbes, Samuel, 126
 Ford, John, 63
 Foss, Cyrus, 142
 Forge, Dunham's, 91
 Freeman, Robert, 32, 63

- Gale, Justice, 115
 Galesburgh, 94
 Garnsey, John, 53, 115
 Garretson, Rev. F., 36
 Gates, Gen., 64
 Gillett, Joel, 27
 Gardiner, 27, 30
 Abner, 27, 63, 78
 Graham, Augustus, 6
 Colonel, 64
 Gray, Jeanthan, 63, 67, 70
 Samuel, 62, 69
 Gridley, Noah, 126
 N., & Son, 126
 House of, 124
 Hall, Benjamin, 65
 Hamlin, Deacon, 39
 Isaac, 4
 Hammond, James, 49
 Harris, Moses, 47, 62, 66, 68
 Harlem Heights, 136
 Harlem River, 128
 Harvey, Joel, 52
 Hatch, Eben, 42
 Lemuel, 62
 Oliver, 62
 Hawley & Co., 6
 Haven, E. O., 141
 Bishop, 141
 Heathcote, Caleb, 5, 6
 Hebard, Reuben, 34
 Deacon, 34
 Robert, 37
 Elijah, 37
 Herrick, Rufus, 47, 64
 Benjamin, 49
 Hessians, 73, 101
 Hitchcock's Corner, 95
 Hitchcock, Amari, 42
 Samuel, 42
 Hinchliffe, 124
 Hoffman, Anthony, 48
 Hollister, Allen, 43
 Asa, 37, 63
 Benjamin, 27, 42
 Holmes, Jehosh, 26
 Ichabod, 63
 Horse Neck, 108
 HOUSES, THE OLD, 144
 Hopkins, Gov. 96
 Benjamin, 55, 62, 67
 Michael, 47, 48, 32
 Noah, 32, 62, 63
 Reuben, 48, 56, 62, 64, 67
 Roswell, 32, 43, 52, 62-4, 67, 115, 116
 Stephen, 27, 32, 47, 48, 37
 Weight, 32, 65, 62, 67,
 Hopkins' Inn, 117
 Humphrey, Col., 65
 Hurd, Asa, 88
 Allen, 88
 Hull, Gen., 84
 Huguenots, 39
 Hunting, Isaac, 37
 Samuel, 125
 Hunt, A. J., 142
 A. S., 142
 Hyde, Rev. Eli, 38
 William, 24, 107, 109
 Independence Fort, 67
 Mount, 64
 Independency, 31
 Indians, 11,
 Indians, Pequot, 3, 11
 Indian Missions, 11, 12
 Indian Pond, 11, 13
 Burial Places, 13
 INCIDENTS OF THE WAR, 73
 Ingraham, George, 37
 Thomas, 37
 IRON MAKING, 126
 Iron, Price of, 127
 INNS AND STORES, 119
 James, G. D., 27
 Jamison, David, 6
 Jackson, Daniel, 18
 Jarvis, Samuel, 74
 Jay, John, 48
 Jefferson, 94
 Jewell, Wm., 36
 Jesuits, 11, 12
 Johnson, Judge, 78
 Johnny Cake Furnace, 127
 Judson, Azariah, 42
 Judson, 28
 Karner House, 26, 98
 Kellogg, Oliver, 42
 Ketcham, Joseph, 64
 Kent, Chancellor, 49
 Kent's Parish, 40
 Kidder, Rev. Dr., 142
 King, John, 32
 Samuel, 32, 47-8, 52, 73
 Kingsley, W., 63, 70
 Kingston burned, 75
 Kinney, Stephen, 26, 37
 Elijah, 28
 Henry, 37
 Knapp, James, 62
 Jones, 70
 Klock's Field, 36
 Knibloe, Rev. Eben, 39, 49, 43, 116
 William, 40
 Elijah, 40
 John, 40
 Joseph, 40
 Stephen, 40
 Knickerbacker, 9, 21, 22
 Kneiss, Mrs., 141
 Land, Price of, 26, 81, 88
 Landon, Jona., 66
 Laselle, Josh., 63
 Lawyers, 138
 Lead Mines, 66
 LEATHER, 122
 Leedsville, 27
 LEEDSVILLE FACTORY, 124
 Leedsville Mill, 133
 Leonard, Dr., 139
 Judge W. H., 50
 Lexington Battle, News of, 51, 61
 LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS, 140
 Library Union, 140
 Litchfield, 16
 Livingston, 16
 Furnace of, 127
 Manor of, 14, 17
 Gilbert, 48
 Robert, 15, 45
 Henry, 45
 Rev. Dr., 41
 Lord, Ephraim, 62, 70
 Lossing, B. J., 137
 Lothrop, 28, 41, 42
 Walter, 42
 Louis XIV., 17
 Lot, Baltus, 24
 Lloyd, John, 64

- Mackey, 62, 69
 McDonald, John, 66
 Anne 66
 Burying Ground, 66
 McGregor, Rob Roy, 66
 Map, Old, 21
 Manning, Rev. Dr. 35
 MANUFACTURES, 122
 McKendree, Bishop, 26
 Manhelm, 17
 Marsh, Silas, 47, 52, 73
 Rev. Cyrus, 100
 Lawyer, 100
 McNell, John, 65
 Marshall, James, 6
 Mather, Rev. Cotton, 91
 Mauwee, Ennice, 10
 Mead, Job, 32, 62
 Job, Jr., 62
 Nathan, 26
 Nathan, Jr., 32
 John K., 49
 Mechanics, 123
 Meeting-House, Red, 30, 32, 36
 Council, 31
 Merrick, Pres., 142
 METHODIST SOCIETY, 35
 Middle District, 48
 Militia, 63, 68, 74
 MILLS, 133
 Milk, Job, 47-8
 Millerton, 5
 Miller, Dr. J., 110
 Miller, Fite, 112
 Mile-Stones, 131
 Mile-Boards, 131
 Mitchell, J., 62, 69
 Money, Silver, 121
 Moravians, 11
 Missions, 39
 Morse, Josiah, 64
 Montgomery, 78, 48

 Nase, Cornelius, 21
 Nase, Henry, 20, 21, 76
 John, 21
 Phil., 21
 William, 21
 Robbery of, 76
 New Milford, 16, 139
 Neely, Alex., 49
 Mi-s, 41
 Newcomb, 80
 New Lights, 31, 38,
 Newman, Josh., 62
 NINE PARTNERS, 5, 15, 20, 25
 Nook, 12
 North Castle, 75
 Northeast, 13
 North, Selah, 124
 North River Presbytery, 33
 Norwalk, 106
 Nye, Sylvanus, 42, 65
 Eben, 50
 House of, 144
 Susan, 141

 OBLONG, 5-8, 10, 15
 SOCIETY OF, 39
 OFFICERS IN THE WAR, 63
 Orton, Levi, 65
 Orange, Prince of, 92
 Ore Bed, 91, 126
 Osborn, Rev. J., 33, 44
 Isaac, 62
 Quebec, Conquest of, 100

 Paine, Abraham, 26, 30, 32
 Abraham, Jr., 47, 49
 Barnabas, 15, 32, 49, 61
 Brinton, 49, 62-6, 68
 Maj., a prisoner, 68
 Ephraim, 47-8, 55, 61
 Judge Ephraim, 50
 Notice of, 71
 Death of Judge, 73,
 House of Judge, 144
 Ichabod, 32
 Josiah, 26, 32, 100, 103
 Rev. Sol., 31
 Samuel, 34
 Dr., 138
 Genealogy of, 100
 Palatines, 16, 17
 Elector, 17
 Palmer, A. W., 49
 James, 34, 74
 Park, Rufus, 124
 Elijah B., 126
 Parsonage Farm, 42
 Pawling Encampment, 73
 Peck, Rev. J. M., 35
 Pennoyer, Amos, 63, 67, 70
 Jesse, 63, 69
 John, 27
 Joseph, 47, 65
 Perlee, Edmund, 47, 62, 65
 Henry, 136
 Perry, Thos. W., 50
 Platt, Judge, 73
 Plaster, 134
 Pleasant, Name, 133
 PLEDGE, PATRIOTIC, 51
 Pitts, Philip, 47
 Philip's Manor, 40
 Plymouth Hill, 81
 Porter, Job, 27
 Daniel, 27
 Post-Offices, 139
 Post Riders, 130
 Powel, Rev. J., 12
 Powers, Frederick, 39
 Jacob, 62
 Peter, 37
 Ruth, 34
 Rev. H. N., 142
 Population, 41, 42
 Rural, 123
 Preston Plains, 40
 Prince Edward, 40
 PROFESSIONAL MEN, 130
 Protestants, French, 23
 Puritans, 32, 39

 Rav, Silas, 62, 69
 Reed, Eliakim, 42, 65
 Elijah, 42
 Ezra, 42, 48
 James, 42, 62, 64-6, 69
 Store of, 120
 House of, 144
 Gershom, 42, 65
 Josiah M., 126
 N. R., House of, 144
 William, 97
 Sammuel, 62
 Silas, 62
 Simeon, 62
 Reading, 106
 RECORD, JUDICIAL, 115
 RESIDENTS, EARLY, 77
 Reinke, Rev. A., 13, 26
 Reynolds, G. G., 50

- Reynolds, Jona, 47
 House of, 145
 Redemptionists, 87
 RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, 89
 REVOLUTIONARY WAR, 51
 Revolutionary Soldiers, 62
 Rice, Rev. P., 36
 ROBBERIES, 76, 86
 Rodgers, Dr. J., 41
 Ichabod, 47
 Rose, Rev. D., 41
 Row, Conrad, 42
 Nicholas, 20, 42
 Sons of, 20
 Samuel, 42
 Philip, 52
 Rows, Palatines, 20
 Rouh, Johan., 20
 Rowley, 28
 Daniel, 42
 ROLL OF HONOR, 53, 55
 Rudd, Bezaleel, 27, 62, 70
 Rumbout, 133
 Rundal, David, 35, 37, 62, 70
 Jacob, 136
 Russel, Samuel, 136

 Sackett, Ezekiel, 42
 Dr. John, 15, 16
 Richard, 14, 15, 16
 Children of, 15
 Books of, 16
 Grave of, 145
 St. John, Ezra, 63
 Salisbury, John, 27
 SEMINARY, AMENIA, 37, 141-2
 Saratoga, 67
 Scatacook, 10, 11, 12
 Schuyler, Gen., 70
 SETTLEMENTS, FIRST, 14
 Sedgwick, John, 64
 Senate, Members of, 48
 Schools, Common, 140
 Separatists, 31, 32, 38
 Separate, M. H., 38, 145
 SLAVERY, 82, 110, 117, 118
 Slason, Peter, 52
 Sutherland, David, 63
 Roger, 37, 62
 SOLDIERS, INDIVIDUAL, 67
 Soldiers, 1812, 136
 of Sharon, 75
 Spencer, Alexander, 42, 62, 68
 Ambrose, son of, 43
 Ambrose, Jun., 44, 136
 Mark, 129
 Spencer Corner, 90
 Spies, 74
 Shepherd, Daniel, 63
 Jona., 32, 34
 Samuel, 32, 47
 Sherman, W., 49
 Sheep in Dutchess, 134
 Shevalier, Elias, 32
 Deacon, 34
 Peter, 32
 Richard, 34
 Showerman, A., 24
 Shumpike, 131
 Smith, Elijah, 63
 Gov., 93, 96
 Isaac, 28, 49, 53, 125
 James, 53
 Joel, 37
 Lawrence, 125
 Platt, 49
 Smithfield Society, 38

 Snyder, Samuel, 20
 Stebbins' Corner, 106
 Steel Works, 14, 127, 133, 136
 Supervisors, 47
 Square, 109
 Swift, E. M., 50
 Rev. Job, 38
 Judah, 50, 52, 65
 Moses, 42
 Reuben, 42
 Seth, 42
 Scythes, Price of, 127

 Taber, William, 127
 Tannery, 114, 123
 Tecumtha, 84
 Teller, Dr. A., 64
 Ten Mile River, 10
 Ten Eyck, Henry, 6
 Thompson, Ezra, 66, 85
 Benajah, 49
 TIMES, AMENIA, 143
 Ticonderoga, 89
 Toby, Elisha, 42
 TORRES IN DUTCHESS, 75, 86
 Tower Hill, 102
 TOWN MEETING, FIRST, 46
 TRAVEL, ROUTES OF, 131
 True, Prof. C. K., 141
 Trumbull, 11
 Trumbull, 75
 Turnpike, Dutchess, 131

 Van Camp, J., 22
 Vancnom, 1, 27
 Valley Forge, 69
 Vermont, Name of, 46

 Walworth, Chancellor, 24, 109
 Warren, James, 81
 Stephen, 40, 65, 112-4
 Warner, Seth, 63, 67
 Washburn, Miles, 47
 Wardwell, Allen, 36
 WAR OF 1812, 130
 Washington, Gen., 74
 Washiac, 10, 14, 15
 Wassaic Creek, 14
 Furnace, 126
 Waterman, 41, 42, 143
 Waters, Samuel, 63, 64, 115
 Waantununck River, 14
 Wakely, Rev. Dr., 36
 Weebntook, 10
 Wells, Selah, 37
 Josh., 37
 Westfield Society, 37
 Westfield, F. A., 68
 Wequagnock, 11
 Wheeler, Elijah, 48
 J. M., 97
 Noah, 62, 63, 67
 Benson H., 97
 Timothy, 37
 Thomas, 27
 Burial Place, 146
 Wheat, 120
 Whitefield, 32, 38
 Willett, Gilbert, 7, 113
 Marinus, 68, 89, 113
 Willson, Robert, 32, 37, 125
 Thomas, 37
 Winchell, Prof. Alexander, 142
 Winchester, A., 42
 Winegar, Conrad, 19, 40, 47, 115
 Garrett, 16, 18-9, 62, 69
 Hendrick, 19

- Winegar, House of, 144
 Samuel S., 19
 Uldrick, 16, 19, 145
 Eve, Grave of, 146
Wolcott, 28, 47, 133
Wolfe, Gen , 106
Woolsey, 28
- Wood, Rev. E., 33, 34, 74
Worthington, Rev. W., 96
Wyoming, 79, 95, 113
- Young, Dr. Thos., 20, 45-6, 106
 William, 42

ERRATUM.—On page 88, line 6, read two dollars and a half, instead of ten dollars and a half.

INTRODUCTION.

The history of a rural town not only gratifies a most reasonable curiosity, but possesses a positive value as a source from which is drawn the history of the State; and there is a peculiar importance belonging to the records of those towns, which had their beginning at the commencement of our national life. The people, who laid the foundations of these small communities, were laying the foundations of a great nation, and in no age or country, has the character of a nation been so greatly formed by the people, in their primary associations. Any careful record of these communities will become more valuable as it grows older.

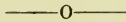
In making a memorial of the early settlers of Amenia, and of their first civil and social institutions, I propose to present only those things, worthy of record, which would soon be out of the reach of any historical research, and without attempting to bring the record down to the present time, either of the events of general interest, or of particular families.

There is no need, in such a work, of describing those physical features of the country, which remain unchanged, nor of introducing any part of general history, which may be found in books, accessible to the ordinary reader.

Those, in whose interest this work is undertaken, need not be told that the sources of information are very unfruitful. There is a surprising absence of any written memorials of those families, which were earliest here. They were men of toil, and not literary, or disposed to keep a record of their uneventful lives ; and their secluded location was so far removed from any scenes of historic interest, that these memorials,—which hardly come up to the dignity of history—will be of interest to only a few, besides the residents here, and the descendants of the earlier inhabitants.

The difficulty of finding exact data, and the desire to be as accurate as possible, and to be brief, are the reasons why so much time and research should be necessary for so small a work. The writer expects to be reminded of some errors, and of many unavoidable omissions.

GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITS.



The *Precinct* of Amenia was to consist of the nine easternmost tier of lots of the Lower or Great Nine Partners, and of that part of the Oblong, lying between these lots and the Connecticut line. This included the present town of Amenia and all that part of the present town of Northeast, south of a line running through the northern part of the present village of Millerton. The *town* of Amenia, when organized, had the same geographical limits.

NINE PARTNERS.

The Great Nine Partners Patent was granted in 1697 to Caleb Heathcote, and others, and it covered the territory very nearly, which is now included in the towns of Clinton, Pleasant Valley, Washington, Stanford, Amenia, except the Oblong, and the south part of Northeast, except the Oblong. This grant was made before the Oblong was ceded to New York, and was bounded east by what was then the colony line.

This patent was divided into thirty-six principal lots,

besides nine narrow water lots, which extended to the Hudson River, across the southern part of the town of Hyde Park, and the "nine easternmost lots," Nos. 28 to 36, were allotted one to each of the nine proprietors. The south lot in the tier, No. 28, was allotted to Augustus Graham, No. 29 to John Aretson, No. 30 to Henry Filkin, No. 31 to Caleb Heathcote, No. 32 to James Emmott, 33 to William Creed, 34 to David Jamison, 35 to James Marshall, and 36 to Hendrick Ten Eyck. The lots were nearly equal, containing about 3,400 acres, varying somewhat according to the quality of the land.

The Little Nine Partners tract was north of this, and corresponded nearly with the towns of Milan, Pine Plains, and the northwest part of Northeast. This patent was granted to Sampson Boughton and others in 1706.

"THE OBLONG."

"The Oblong," or "Equivalent Land," ceded to New York by Connecticut, after years of controversy, in 1731—61,440 acres—was 580 rods in width, and was divided into two tiers of square lots, called 500 acres each, though exceeding that. It was sold by the colonial government of New York to Hawley & Co., and allotments made to the individuals of the Company, and by them sold to emigrants, "who received a guarantee of title from the colonial government." "It was this security of title, which caused these lots to be eagerly sought after by emigrants." The Crown also gave a deed of these lands to an English company, which endeavored to maintain its claim in the English court of chancery, and the suit was brought to an end only by the Revolutionary war.

This land was surveyed and divided by Cadwallader Colden, Surveyor-General and Lieutenant Governor of

New York, who was one of the Commissioners. Another of the Commissioners was Gilbert Willett. They became owners of some of the land. The Oblong lots, included in Amenia, were numbers 43 to 72.

The name "Oblong,"—at first applied to the whole tract—became after a few years limited to that valley in Amenia, of six or seven miles in extent, now Amenia Union and South Amenia.

The history of this controversy is this. In 1664, it was agreed between the two colonies that the boundary line should run from a certain point on Long Island Sound *north-north-west* to the Massachusetts line; both parties then understanding that this line would be parallel to the Hudson River, and twenty miles from it, which was the acknowledged limit of the two colonies. This was when the whole country north of Long Island Sound was an unknown land, and there was great misconception of the points of the compass; for this direction would lead to the Hudson River below West Point.

When this error, which both parties recognized, was made apparent, it was agreed to rectify it. But the people who had settled on lands defined by that boundary very earnestly desired to retain their civil connection with the Connecticut colony; it was therefore agreed by that colony to cede to New York an *equivalent* in territorial extent, equal to the present towns of Greenwich, Stamford, New Canaan, and Darien, an area 12 miles by 8—61,440 acres.

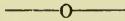
The agreement was completed and subscribed by the Commissioners at Dover* on the 14th of May, 1731, after the entire survey had been made by them, and the monuments set up.

* Dover is spoken of by the Commissioners in their reports as a village, the only one on the west side of the Oblong; and Ridgefield and Newburgh the only villages on the east side.

The survey was made by running a random line from a given point to the Massachusetts' boundary and the true boundary between New York and Connecticut, was found by perpendicular surveys from this random line. This accounts for the fact that the monuments, which mark the boundary line between the two states, are not in a true line, which has excited a vexatious controversy for so many years and is not even yet settled.*

* The Governor of Connecticut, in his recent message, called the attention of the Legislature to this subject.

ASPECT OF THE COUNTRY.



There was not an unbroken forest here when the first settlers came ; as the fires of the Indians, in their pursuit of game, had destroyed the timber on the dry lands, except a few isolated specimens of oak, white wood, and wild cherry, some of which attained great size. On the plains there were scattered small oaks, which had sprung up after the fires, and by the creeks, and in wet lands, there were large button-wood and black-ash trees ; and all the streams were overhung with a mass of alders and willows. The mountains, it has been said, were covered with a less dense growth of wood than at present. It is evident that in the valleys, the white wood or tulip tree, and the wild cherry have given place to other trees, as the elm ; and that on the mountains, the chestnut has greatly increased. The mountains, being burned over also by the Indians, were so bare, that the wild deer were plainly seen from the valleys below.

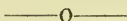
There were but few of the large wild animals ; only a few deer, and an occasional otter in the creeks, and very rarely a wolf.

The principal stream, called in Dover, the "Ten-Mile River," and in Amenia, the "Oblong River," was called by the Indians the Weebutook,* and its largest tributary from the west in this town was called by them the "Wassaic."† These streams were stocked with herring, and were frequented by great numbers of minks, and were the resort and breeding place of wild ducks.

* Weebutook signified "Beautiful Hunting Ground." This is the interpretation given by Eunice Mauwee, grand-daughter of the Chief, Gideon Mauwee, of the Scatacook tribe of Indians, in Kent, Conn. It was she who attained the age of 102 years.

† The Indian word Wassaic is understood to signify "Difficult," or requiring hard labor, perhaps on account of the difficulty of access to the stream in its rocky chasm. In 1703, it was written "Washiack." The village of Wassaic was so called in 1843.

THE INDIANS.



When the first settlers came, they found several scattered remnants of the Pequot Indians,* who had their hunting grounds up and down these valleys. They had a village in the northeast part of the town, on the west side of Indian Pond, called Wequagnoch, a settlement called Checomico, near Pine Plains, and at Scatacook, in Kent, Conn., there was a considerable tribe. There was constant intercourse between these different settlements, and frequent migrations from one to the other.

The remarkable labors of the Moravian missionaries among these Indians began in 1740, and were attended with very evident success, but the missionaries were so annoyed, and their people, by the officers of the colonial government that in a very few years they were driven out of the state.† These worthy christian laborers were charged with being Jesuits, and emissaries of

* That they were Pequots is generally accepted, on the authority of the accurate historian Trumbull.

† These exiles went first to Bethlehem, Penn., under the friendly care of the Brethren, and thence to Canada.

the French, a most odious and unreasonable imputation.

It may be some palliation of this excessive jealousy, that the missionaries were foreigners, and that this was a period of our country's history when the French in Canada were sending their emissaries—especially the Jesuits—to the Indians on our northern borders to excite them against the English and the colonies; though there is no reason now to believe that the influence of these emissaries extended to the scattered and feeble bands of Indians in this part of the state. It should be noted also that it was not by the local authorities, that the missionaries were disturbed, for they were held in high esteem by their English neighbors.*

There was not only no outbreak here between the Indians and the whites, but they lived in perfect friendship, and the rights of the Indians were faithfully guarded by the stronger and more sagacious party.

After the Christian Indians had been driven out by the state, the Scatacocks of Connecticut continued their annual excursions through the valleys of Amenia till after the beginning of the present century, and until the last remnant of the tribe had sunk into idleness and intoxication.†

After the dispersion of the Indians, one of the Moravian missionaries—Rev. Joseph Powell—ministered to a congregation of the early settlers at the station in Amenia, near Indian Pond, where he died in 1774. He was buried there, with some of his people, on the field of his labors, in the burying ground of the brethren, near their house of worship. Here also the monu-

* A valuable and pleasing history of these Moravian missionaries was prepared by Rev. Sheldon Davis in 1858, the original manuscript journal of the missionaries having then recently been discovered in the historical archives of the Brethren at Bethlehem.

† At a place by the river, called the "Nook," near South Amenia, the Indians were accustomed to hold their noisy "pow-wows." There were a few Indian wigwams near the outlet of Swift's Pond.

mental stone says James Alworth died, 1786, aged 73, Mary Alworth died, 1797, aged 79 (and others). This ground, consecrated by missionary work and christian burial, is on the farm of Col. Hiram Clark, in the present town of Northeast, not far east of his house and on the west side of Indian Pond.*

Rev. Abraham Reinke, another of the Moravian Brethren, ministered to the people, in different parts of the town, before the settlement of a pastor.

* Several Indian burial places are spoken of in tradition; one on lands of Myron B. Benton; another where that old burying ground lies, near Amasa D. Coleman's, still the burial place of families in that vicinity. Besides these it has often happened that bones, evidently of Indian remains, have been disinterred in the Oblong valley.

FIRST SETTLEMENTS.

—O—

MR. SACKETT.

Mr. Richard Sackett* was here several years before any other settlement was made, though the precise year when he brought his family is not known. The place now known as the "Steel Works," on the Wassaic creek and the Harlem Railroad, was the place where he made his settlement, which is said to have been previous to 1711. In the Colonial Records, we read: "March 11, 1703, Richard Sackett petitioned government for license to purchase (of the Indians) a tract of land in Dutchess county, east of Hudson's river, called Washiack." "Oct. 20, 1703, License granted." "Nov. 2, 1704, Patent to Richard Sackett & Co. for said land, containing about 7,500 acres, or thereabouts." "April 10, 1706, Patent to Sampson Boughton & Co. for a tract of land joining on north side of above patent, and extending east to the colony line of Conn. and Waanti-nunk river, and north to the manor of Livingston."

* He is called by tradition "Captain" Sackett, but in all the old public documents, he is mentioned as "Mr." Sackett.

Mr. Sackett was a resident of New York city, when he obtained the license and patent of 1703 and 1704. In 1711 and 1712, he was one of the commissioners with Mr. Robert Livingston, in settling the Palatines, at East Camp, or Germantown. This occupied so much of these two years, that he could not have spent much of his time at his new home at Washiack.

The patent of 1704—"7,500 acres, or thereabouts"—must have been covered by the Great Nine Partners' Grant, which was made May 27, 1697, making Mr. Sackett's subsequent title invalid.

The patent of April 10, 1706, to Sampson Boughton & Co., was that of Little Nine Partners, and Mr. Sackett was one of the nine.

In 1726, Mr. Sackett made application to the Connecticut Legislature for license to purchase of the Indians a tract of land in the west part of the town of Sharon. But his petition was denied, though repeated several times.

He was never able to maintain his title to any of the Oblong lots, nor could his heirs, though his son—Dr John Sackett—attempted, in 1750, under the grant of 7,500 acres, to hold some of these lands against Lieut.-Gov. Colden and others.*

Mr. Sackett died 1746, and was buried on the hill, not far from his place of residence, in a little cemetery, now greatly neglected. There is no stone to mark his grave.†

He had three sons and two daughters.‡ To his son, Dr. John Sackett, he gave, by his will, the homestead,

* Lot No. 45 of the Oblong, which was near Mr. Sackett's place, was allotted to Gov. Colden, who made the survey of the Oblong, and was given by him to his son, Alexander Colden, who, in 1750, re-surveyed lots 43, 44, 45, and 46.

† Barnabas Paine, Esq., says in his manuscript that he had several times visited the grave of Mr. Sackett in that place, but now no stone can be found there which identifies the grave.

‡ The children of Mr. Sackett were Richard, John, Josiah Crego, Mary and Catherine. The last of the family that left here, grand-sons of Mr. Sackett, went to Rennselaer Co.

orchard,* and meadows, and improved lands, and also his books.† To his son Richard, he gave two hundred acres of land, above his equal share, “as being his eldest son.” These bequests of land show Mr. Sackett’s own estimate of his titles, some of which, at least, proved to be empty.

It may be supposed, that Mr. Sackett, being much associated with Mr. Livingston, and observing his success in acquiring a large landed estate, was encouraged to enter upon a similar course. There is nothing, however, in the history of these transactions that appears unworthy of an honorable man. Gov. Hunter, in 1712.—to the Home Government—commends Mr. Sackett’s “diligence and industry,” and says, “and he well deserves a reward, to which I humbly recommend him.”

At the time Mr. Sackett established his family in Amenia, there was not another white family in the county nearer than Poughkeepsie, and the whole population of Dutchess county, then including Putnam, was only about 450. There was no settlement in the adjoining county of Litchfield, in Connecticut, except in Woodbury and New Milford.‡

THE WINEGARS.

In 1724, Capt. Garret Winegar came to Amenia Union from the East Camp, now Germantown, in Columbia county, on the Hudson river. His father, Ul-drick Winegar, then seventy-two years old, came with him. They were of those Palatines, who were forced out, destitute, from their native country, in the interior

* This orchard was celebrated long after.—One tree is left.

† These books, some of which were on subjects of National History, show the literary disposition of the family. They were presented by Dr. John Sackett to Dr. Reuben Allerton, and after his death they were taken by his son, Dr. Cornelius Allerton.

‡ There were twelve families in New Milford in 1712

of Germany, out of revenge by Louis XIV., and were befriended by the English government, which gave them lands in this new country, and for some time a free subsistence. "The Elector Palatine, the head of the little state, having deserted the cause of France, orders were given to lay waste his country. The cruel edict was fearfully executed; two cities and twenty-five villages were reduced to ashes, and their innocent inhabitants were left to perish by cold and hunger."

A part of these people, brought to America by the friendly ships of Great Britain, were placed at the Camp, where six thousand acres of land were divided to their several families, and they were supplied also by the royal bounty of Queen Anne* with present subsistence, with horses and cattle, and all those implements which are necessary for the successful prosecution of their future industries. It was expected that there would be some return to the government for these favors in the production by the colonists of naval stores, hemp, tar, pitch, and pine lumber.

The six thousand acres now the town of Germantown was a part of the manor of Livingston, and was released to the Crown by Mr. Livingston for this purpose, that it might be the home of these refugees. Many of the Palatines were located in other parts of the state.†

This settlement was made in 1710; and in 1724, Mr. Winegar, probably through some discontent, was led to seek a home in this unoccupied region. The cause of

* One of the royal gifts of Queen Anne was a church for their worship.

† The Upper Palatinate was a small state, lying on both sides of the Rhine, having Mannheim for its capital. In 1674, the whole of it was rendered almost desolate by the troops of Louis XIV., who had no better motive than that the invaded province was part of the empire with which he was then at war, and next, that the inhabitants were almost all Protestants. About 2,700 Palatines, who had sought refuge in England, were sent to America by the British government in 1710. They were mostly German Reformed, or Presbyterian.

discontent was this. The colonists complained of unreasonable exaction upon their productive industry, and that the royal bounty of food was unjustly withheld from them by the commissioners, some of whom seem to have made too great a profit out of these subsidies.

It is a reasonable conjecture that Mr. Winegar's acquaintance with Mr. Sackett at the Camp may have led him to come to Amenia, and it is evident that he was actuated by a spirit of independence and enterprise, and not by any desire for speculation.

He entered upon land at Amenia Union—where he built his house—without any title, except from the Indians, and afterwards, when the Oblong was confirmed to New York, and surveyed, he received a title from the proprietor of those lots at a reasonable price.

In 1739 Mr. Winegar purchased of Daniel Jackson 300 or 400 acres of land in Connecticut, adjoining his own, and removed into the house built by Mr. Jackson on the hill above the site of the brick factory, thus becoming a citizen of the town of Sharon. He had built a mill at a place above the present mill sites of the place, which was the first mill in this part of the county, and the first building erected in the town of Sharon.

The character of Mr. Winegar for honesty was proverbial. He lived on the most friendly terms with the Indians, by whom he was regarded with the greatest respect, and whom he several times defended against the injustice of their white neighbors; and it is said that he gave his children charge at his death that they should never allow the Indians to go from their doors in want of food.

It is worthy of note that there is no mention of any block-house, or any defense against the Indians, put up by these early settlers, notwithstanding they were sur-

rounded by large numbers of them, and were isolated for many years from any other white settlements; while in Litchfield, between 1720 and 1730, there were five houses surrounded by palisades, and "soldiers were stationed there to guard the inhabitants while at work and at worship on the Sabbath."

Mr. Winegar died in 1755 in the midst of his enterprises. He made provision in his will for his fourteen children, and also made special and kind mention of his servant "Tom." His father, Uldrick Winegar, had died in 1754, aged 102 years. Their graves and those of many of their descendants, are in that well-chosen burial place near Amenia Union.

Hendrick Winegar,* the oldest son of Capt. Garret, had his residence for several years near the foot of the west mountain, and in 1761 he built the large stone and brick house a short distance west of Amenia Union. He was the ancestor of the families of that name in Kent, Conn.

Uldrick, another son, was the grandfather of Capt. Samuel Snyder Winegar, Conrad Winegar, another son of Garret, was a magistrate and public-spirited citizen in the town. His antique and quaint-looking old house, which stood near the rocks in rear of Samuel Hitchcock's house, remained till about 1820. His only son, Gerhard, or Garret, the grandfather of Garret H., was an officer in the Revolution, and died before the close of the war. Esq. Winegar held a valuable tract of land, extending from the highest point of the east mountain to that of the west. The wife of Capt. John Boyd and the wife of Col. Colbe Chamberlain were daughters of Esq. Winegar.

One of the daughters of Capt. Garrett Winegar was

* He was called Ensign Winegar.

the wife of Nicholas Row, Sen. Another was the wife of Dr. Thomas Young, who will be mentioned again.

Lieutenant Samuel Snyder, who was one of the Palatines, and came here with them, was the brother-in-law of Garret Winegar, and his wife was the daughter of Henry Nase.

His house was where John D. Barnum lives. He was 95 years old when he died in 1808. Here is now (1875), planted by him, the first pear tree grown in this part of the land.

THE ROWS.

The Rows were also Germans, and are supposed to have been also of the Palatines, and to have come to this place soon after the Winegars and previous to 1731. See old map of Nine Partners.

“Johannes Rouh died in 1768, aged 72 years.” He lived where the brick house now stands built by Henry Morehouse. He was the father of Nicholas, Sen., and William. The sons of Nicholas, Sen., were Nicholas, Jun., Samuel, Conrad, and Garrett.* The sons of Nicholas, Jun., were William, Nicholas, John, Henry, Conrad, and Gilbert. His wife was the daughter of John Lovel. Of the other sons of Nicholas, Sen., Conrad lived where Walter Sherman does, and Garret built the Hilliard house, a stone building where Shadrack Sherman's house now stands.

The old houses, built by these early settlers, of which there were as many as seven or eight near Amenia Union, at the beginning of the present century, were objects of special interest.

* One of the daughters of Nicholas Row, Sen., was the wife of Benjamin Delamater. Another was the wife of Capt. William Young.

There is a pen and ink map,* executed previous to 1731, of the Nine Partners, which shows the dwellings in Amenia at that time. Mr. Sackett's is shown, and Henry Nase's, four near Amenia Union, and one on Lot 33. The Lot lines seem to be drawn according to the survey, and the streams and ponds are laid down with a good deal of accuracy. This map is supposed to have been made by the family of one of the proprietors of the grant.

The dwelling on Lot 33 is probably intended for that of Salisbury, who is mentioned on page 21.

The four houses near Amenia Union confirm the supposition that Mr. Row was there previous to 1731, and the location of one of the houses agrees with that of Mr. Row.

This steadfast Christian people have not gained that historical notice which has been accorded to the Huguenots and to the Hollanders; and it may be suggested as a reason that the Germans, at their early and enforced emigration, and out of their great poverty, neglected the higher education and were without a historian to make a memorial of their deeds.

HENRY NASE.

In 1725 Henry Nase settled in the south part of the town. His memorial stone, in the cemetery at Dover, says:—"Henry Nase, born in High Germany, died Dec. 14, 1759, about 64 years old." His residence was near where his grandson, Corneilius, lived, but on the opposite or east side of the river,† and here also his son

* The compiler is indebted to Mrs. Caroline Germond, a descendant of Henry Filkin, one of the Nine Partners, for the use of this map.

N. B.—Space would fail to mention all the voluntary contributions, which have been made, to assist in this work.

† The old map—mentioned above—indicates that Mr. Nase's first house was on the east side of the river, which is also the testimony of tradition.

Philip, Sen., resided, who was the father of Henry, John, Philip, Corneilius, and William. Henry, the oldest of these, being a tory, emigrated to Nova Scotia after the Revolutionary war. The others occupied four contiguous farms in that beautiful agricultural district.

KNICKERBACKER AND VANDUSEN.

It appears that these families were in the south part of the town at an early period and also that Jacob Van Camp and Derrick Dutcher were in the north part of Dover, previous to 1731.*

There is a deed, written in the Dutch, or Holland language, of the date of 1711, from Herman Knickerbacker to Corneilius Knickerbacker. It appears to be of land occupied by Van Dusen, and the house of Van Dusen was a short distance east of Geo. T. Belding's

It was about 1720, that Van Dusen, Knickerbacker and Dutcher purchased land in Salisbury of the Indians, supposing, as has been said, that their purchases were within the province of New York.

"The first highway from Salisbury was from Weatague through Lakeville, Ore Hill, Sharon Valley, Sackett's Farm to Dover,† showing the intercourse of these Dutch families.

DELAMATERS.

Capt. Isaac Delamater settled where Samuel Sherman lives previous to 1740. He came here from Kingston, Ulster county, where the family had lived several generations. His father was Jacob, and his grandfather was Claude, who came to America after 1645 and before 1650.

* The old map shows the houses of Jacob Van Camp and Derrick Dutcher near Plymouth Hill.

† Historical Address of Hon. Samuel Church, of Salisbury, Conn., at the Centennial Anniversary of that town in 1841.

They were Huguenots, and like a large portion of that excellent people, made their escape from persecution* in France, first to Holland, and thence to America, and thus became identified in that country and in this with the Hollanders. It is a striking fact, and exemplified in the subsequent chapters of this history, that so many of the early settlers of Amenia were brought here by their love of freedom.

Capt. Delamater died April 20, 1775, the very day after the battle of Lexington,† and was buried in his own field. He was also a magistrate, and though many quaint things were said and done by this excentric justice, his integrity and good sense were never questioned. It is an accredited tradition that in judicial cases of importance he consulted his wife, who sometimes sat by his side in court.

He had been captain of a company of colonial troops in the French war, and took special interest in military affairs, calling the young men of his district together to his own house for instruction in military art.

Capt. Delamater was a large land owner, and gave farms to his sons. Martin remained at the homestead. Benjamin built a stone house north of Horace Reed's. John (Honnes) built a mill at Leedsville—the first in the town—and also, in 1761, he built the brick house,‡ now the property of Myron B. Benton. Isaac, Jun., lived on the farm now owned by Newton Reed, where he built a house, which is now a part of the residence of the present owner, and which is now the oldest building in the town of Amenia. Mr. Delamater owned also

* It is recorded in history that 200,000 French Protestants suffered martyrdom, and 700,000 were driven from the kingdom.

† The house built by Mr. Delamater was of brick, and was burned about 1819.

‡ J. M. D. seen on the face of the wall stands for John and Mary Delamater.

J. M. D. John & Mary Delamater

the farm of Edward E. Cline. John Delamater, of Leedsville, was the grandfather of John Delamater, M. D., LL. D., who was a distinguished physician and surgeon, and who was professor in the medical institutions of Pittsfield, Mass., Fairfield, N. Y., and Cleveland, Ohio. He died in Cleveland in 1867.* There were several other physicians in the family.†

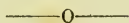
Besides the families named above, all of whom emigrated from the North river, there was one Baltus Lot, who lived awhile in the north part of this town and on the public lands in the town of Sharon, and Adam Showerman is mentioned as being about the same time in that part of the town. These were supposed to have come also from near the Hudson River.

There were several Dutch families settled on the Housatonic in Salisbury previous to this, and before any settlements were made there by the New Englanders.

* Dr. John Delamater's mother was Elizabeth Dorr, a descendant of William Hyde, of Norwich, Conn., and consequently is named in that remarkable genealogy, prepared by the late Chancellor Reuben Hyde Walworth.

† Ex-Gov. Todd, of Ohio, is a descendant of John Delamater. Ex-President Colfax and Wm. M. Evarts are also members of this family.

FIRST SETTLERS FROM NEW ENGLAND.



The first important immigration to these new lands from other parts of New York and from New England was not till about 1740. The Nine Partners' land had been in market for some time and was sold at first in rather large tracts. The Oblong lots were brought into market in 1731 and attracted many immigrants from Connecticut and Massachusetts.

From 1740 to 1750, the immigration was evidently large, from the significant fact that about 1750 the population was sufficient to encourage the people to institute public worship in three different places.

In the journal of Abraham Reinke, one of the Moravian missionaries who preached at "Nine Partners and Oblong," in 1753, he says:—"The people came here *five years ago* in expectation of bettering their fortunes by the purchase of cheap farms, and for the

enjoyment of religious liberty.”* This shows that by his estimate a considerable portion of the people came here about 1748. It also gives a significant intimation of the spirit of the people in their jealous regard for their religious rights. The opportunity to obtain fruitful lands at a moderate price was very attractive. The better lands were easily cleared and brought immediate returns. The title was assured, and the price was moderate.†

Among the earliest of the first settlers from New England were Hezekiah King and Abraham Paine. It was somewhat previous to 1740, as Mr. King died in 1740, and he had built a house a little west of Amenia Union, afterward called the “Karner House,”

The house was built in the style prevailing in Connecticut at that time, high in front and very low in the rear. The timber was white wood, which indicated its early structure, as all the oldest houses were of that timber.‡ Abraham Paine, of Canterbury, settled in the northern part of the town, as it is, and also Joshua Paine, Jehoshaphat Holmes, and Elisha Cleaveland. About 1740 Nathan Mead came from Horse Neck, or Greenwich, that hive of the Meads, and purchased where the family are still in possession. Stephen Kinney from New Preston, settled in 1740 near the Separate, so called, where his family is still represented.

* There was not any subjection of the church to the state, which these emigrants fled from, but they were jealous of the least interference of the spiritual with the temporal power; and their theory of the entire separation of church and state is now the theory in every part of the United States. The plan of union adopted by the first settlers of Massachusetts was expressed by Rev. Mr. Cotton in his letter to Lord Say and Seal. “It is better that the Commonwealth be fashioned to the setting forth of God’s house, which is his church, than to accommodate the church frame to the civil state.” These historic facts had so much connection with the settlement of Amenia that without some reference to them we shall misunderstand one of the essential elements in the social history of this people.

† The price of new land then was a dollar and a half per acre. In 1760 it was about two dollars and a half per acre.

‡ A large number of the first houses built by settlers were commodious structures, and of pleasing architectural appearance. There were but few log houses. The white wood was very suitable for building. The two-story house built by Jedidiah Bump was covered entirely with siding from one tree.

Elisha Adams was the first resident in that part of the town called Adams' Mills, and the first in the west part of Lot 32 of Nine Partners

Benjamin Hollister from Sharon settled in 1741 near Leedsville, where some of his family are in possession. Joel Gillett came to the Delavergne farm in 1742.

Gardiner Gillett lived north of where Hiram Cooper's residence now is, and on a road now discontinued. Abner Gillett was here previous to 1748, probably as early as 1742. He owned the farm of Geo. D. James. About 1742, Capt. Stephen Hopkins, of Hartford, Conn., purchased a tract of land about a mile north of the present village of Amenia, and including the land on which the Old Red Meeting House stood. He purchased the north half of lot 32 of Nine Partners, and appears to have purchased the right of Isaac Vanernom who had bought of John Salisbury. "There had been some improvements made by Salisbury."* Stephen Hopkin's house was southwest of the old burying ground, and was reached in late years by a lane, and was the residence awhile of Henry Ingraham.

Thomas Wheeler came from Woodbury in 1749 to lands which are held now by his descendants. Daniel and Job Porter came also that year. Simeon Dakin from near Boston removed to the north part of the town about 1750, and also Bezaleel Rudd, and Spencer. Captain David Collin settled on the place now occupied by his great grandson. John Pennoyer removed from Sharon in 1749 to Oblong lot, No. 62. In the northwest part of the town Abraham Bockee, from New York, settled on land purchased by his father in 1699, two years after the purchase of the Nine Partners' tract

* The dwelling of Salisbury is shown on the old map, mentioned on page 21, though the location is not perfectly exact, nor the name. This Salisbury was probably the one referred to in Judge Church's Historical Address. He was not a land-owner there nor here.

—land now held by his descendant, Phenix Bockee. Elijah Kinne was on a farm north of the City. It was a little later than these dates that Isaac Smith and others immigrated to that part of the town.

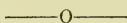
In the southeast part of the town, some of the earliest settlers were Davis, Rowley, Bump, Cady, Knapp, Woolsey, Woolcott, Mitchell, Curtis, Lothrop, Judson, Delano, Doty, and others, of whom a part were known there only a few years. Those families from Connecticut and the Cape, who became the permanent residents, the Barlows, Swifts, Chamberlains, Needs, Clines, Hitchcocks, and others migrated to their new homes here in the years from 1755 to 1769.

These and the early settlers in the other parts of the town, will be noticed in a subsequent part of this work, and it will be more convenient for the compiler and for the reader to have the names of the families arranged in alphabetical order, rather than in the order of the date of their settlement.

The formative period of the town's history was an eventful epoch also in the history of the colony. The population of the colony was rapidly increasing. In 1746, the population of Dutchess county was 8,800 and in 1756, it was 14,148, and the population of the colony of New York was 96,765.

There was war between England and France, and great activity in the military service, and the men were trained by their service in the French war for that national struggle which was to come. There was also a great agitation of religious questions arising out of the revival of religion under the ministry of Edwards and others.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.



It is evident that a large number of families besides these—whose names are given and the date of their immigration—had settled upon these lands, as early as 1750, as indicated in their institution of public worship by several congregations about this time.

They had come into this newly-opened territory without any concert, each family purchasing their land independently of the others, and without any previous or immediate arrangement for establishing civil or ecclesiastical organizations. In this they were unlike the communities in New England, which made their settlements under the regulations of an organized association, civil and religious. Those were a homogeneous people and set out at once with all the advantages of a common centre and unity in their social life.

The absence of this municipal unity in the case of these immigrants, and the want of any public records in the beginning, may readily account for the lack of exact dates in their history.

These immigrants, however, notwithstanding their isolation and diversity of origin, soon began to lay the foundations of their future welfare when they set up the

institutions of religion, and united in that form of christian fellowship, which indicated their love of freedom, and which was the model of the then future free institutions of our country.

The Republican form of ecclesiastical government, adopted by so many of the churches in America, was not patterned after the form of the civil government of this country, which is much more recent. It seems more proper to say that the form of church government was the model of our civil government. It is consistent with the teachings of history to say that the adoption of a republican form of ecclesiastical government by the churches at the time of the Reformation in France, Switzerland, Holland, Scotland, and partly in England, prepared the people for choosing the same form of government for the State.

The germ of American liberty was in the Reformation.

THE RED MEETING HOUSE.

The territory afterwards included in the town of Amenia, being geographically divided into three principal valleys, there were three congregations organized for public worship, and they were all of the same order, Presbyterian,* or Congregational. The oldest—so far as recorded—of these churches was organized near the centre of the town, when in May, 1748, Abraham Paine† and Gardiner Gillett entered into covenant, "The Lord having thus begun to build his church here." In July, 1749, "Sixteen souls more were gathered into church fellowship." They called the name of the church "Carmel, in the Nine Partners." In 1750, June 14, Abraham

* The term "Presbyterian" was then often applied to a Congregational church.

† Mr. Paine speaks of himself as "Abraham Paine, son of Elisha Paine, of Canterbury, Conn." There is an account of these families in their alphabetical order.

Paine, Jun., "was set apart to the work of the ministry by solemn ordination by laying on the hands of the Presbytery, and by the power of the Holy Ghost." The ecclesiastical form of the church and the doctrines were agreeable to those in New England at that time, and the council called for the installation of Mr. Paine were from Connecticut. The day of the ordination was observed with solemn fasting.

Mr. Paine does not seem to have been educated in early life for the ministry, but was invested with the office to meet the immediate wants of a newly-organized congregation. One of the council at his ordination was his father's brother, Rev. Solomon Paine,* an eminent minister of Canterbury, Conn.

This society was instituted at a time when in New England the churches were agitated by the fiery zeal of the "New Lights," or "Separatists," and Mr. Paine, and a considerable portion of his church, were affected with their notions, which led to some disagreement between them and the more conservative of the congregation.

The Separatists were earnest and conscientious, but sometimes uncharitable and censorious, and their discipline took cognizance of the thoughts of the heart, which were confessed to one another, and were made the subject of censure and rebuke.†

The Separatists, or New Lights, differed from other Congregationalists, not in their *doctrines*; but in their claim to have obtained a new spiritual *Light*, and to have reached a higher spiritual *Life*. A spirit of uncharitableness was indulged, and they were accustomed

* Another brother of his father had been an eminent lawyer, and became a Separatist minister, and subjected himself for his irregularities in preaching to persecution.

† The record of a council of the church of the Red Meeting House, at which several members were subjected to discipline for various offences, especially "for the indulgence of an Antinomian and party spirit," says—"This solemn assembly continued from Wednesday morning in solemn fasting, lamentation, prayer and confession, from the rising of the morning till the stars appeared on Saturday night."

to denounce ministers and others as Antinomian, and unregenerated, and when their views did not govern in a church, they were disposed to *separate* themselves from it. In their ecclesiastical government, the Separatist held to that Independency, which the Pilgrims contended for when they fled from England to Holland, previous to their coming over to Plymouth.*

The differences between the Pilgrims and the Puritans, which existed at that time, had not died out in New England in 1740, and scarcely now.

They both held fast to the doctrines of the Thirty-Nine Articles. But the Puritans, hoping for the purifying of the English church, did not sever their connection with it till they left for their new home.

The Separatists were also restive under the subjection in New England of the church to the civil authority, and were prepared to give a high tone to their independency in their new home, and to assert the rights of individuals and the equality of all men.†

The house of worship—which was always known as the “Red Meeting House”—was built in 1758. The place where it stood is a triangle at the convergence of the highways about a mile northeast of the village of Amenia, and near the burying ground. It was a building nearly square, two stories, with a gallery on three sides, and was seated with square pews.

This house was built‡ and afterwards repaired partly

* This is the time when they received the name of “Separatists.”

† One of the King’s officers, in pursuit of a deserter here, in 1761, says of the people in Nine Partners that “they are levellers from principle (Doc. Hist., III., 985).”

‡ The number of those who contributed to the building of the church was seventy-nine and the amount contributed was £350-17-4=887.17. Of those who contributed to this work these names will be recognized. Stephen Hopkins is first with the sum of £20. Joshua Paine, Elias Shevilear, and Benjamin Benedict gave each £13. Sammel King, £9; Jeddiah Dewey and Roswell Hopkins, each £10. Other names are Robert Freeman, Abraham Paine, Jun., Joab Cook, Grover Buel, Jonathan Shephard, Jun., Samuel Shepard, Nathan Mead, Jun., Simeon Cook, John King, Tristram Brown, Noah Hopkins, Michael Hopkins, Ichabod Paine, Sen., Ichabod Paine, Jun., Weight Hopkins, Job Mead, Peter Shevilear, Barnabas Paine, Robert Willson, John Hindman, and John Brunson. Their paper is dated “Nine Partners, Feb. 6, 1758.” The site for this edifice was presented by Capt. Stephen Hopkins, who also gave the first land for the Burying Ground.

by the contributions of those not strictly adherents of the Congregational polity, and was occupied harmoniously in later years by the Congregationalists, Baptists and Methodists.

In 1770, in June, (or July, according to Sedgwick's History), the celebrated Whitefield preached in the Red Meeting House to the crowds that followed him from all the country round.

Elder Elijah Wood, a Baptist, was the acceptable minister of the congregation several years.

In the early part of the present century, the three denominations gradually became separated, and each sustained a separate organization.

There is no record of a settled pastor after Mr. Paine for many years, but there appears to have been preaching, stated and occasional, and the ordinances were administered by pastors of other churches and stated supplies, and there were evidently a large number of excellent Christian men connected with this congregation.

There was much distraction at the time of the Revolutionary war, and afterwards some degree of dissension in drawing the lines between the adherents of this church and the other denominations.

In 1811 this church was connected with the Associated Presbytery of Westchester, and in 1815 with the Presbytery of North River.

In 1815, Rev. Joel Osborn became pastor of the church, and gave to it his services one-third of the time, which indicates the feebleness to which it was reduced. From that period there has been a gradual improvement.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Baptist Church in Amenia at its organization in

1790, appears to have been composed partly of some from the old Congregational church and of others who had been educated in the Baptist system, and who had been members of the Baptist church in Northeast.* "On the 5th of May 1790, three brethren related their experience and signed the covenant, and on the 12th and 19th three more brethren and several sisters united with them."† On the 2d of June they chose Reverend Elijah Wood for their minister, who, on the 27th of June, "administered the ordinance of the Lord's supper to them for the first time."

Mr. Wood had ministered to the Congregational church some years, and it does not appear that his change of views and his uniting himself with this new organization sundered the fraternal relations with the brethren of the old church, or lessened their confidence in him. We find him invited by the Society's committee—Deacon Shevalier, a Baptist, and Deacon Hebard, a Congregationalist—to continue his ministrations. The jealousy and strife, which after this disturbed the two churches, is happily now almost forgotten.

Rev. Elijah Wood was a native of Norwich, Conn., and went in early life to Bennington, Vt., where he was licensed to preach in a Congregational church. From Bennington he came to Amenia before the Revolutionary war and was counted among the active patriots. He was not a scholar, but was a good student and an acceptable preacher. He was sometimes laid aside by ill health, but continued to minister till his death in

* The Baptist church in Northeast, at Spencer's Corners, was instituted in 1751 by Elder Simon Dakin, who came from the vicinity of Boston, where he had suffered some annoyance for his religious principles. This was the second Baptist church organized in the colony of New York, and became one of the most important. It was sustained by the large and influential family of Winchell's, farmers of enterprise and wealth.

† The names of those who first constituted the church were James Palmer, David Allerton, Richard Shevalier, Reuben Hebbard, Jonathan Shepherd, Samuel Paine, Deborah Palmer, Jeanett Allerton, Elizabeth Holmes, Thankfal Hebbard, and Mary Cook. James Palmer was licensed to preach in 1791.

1810. At the ordination of Mr. Wood, Rev. James Manning, D. D., President of Brown University, preached the sermon.

In 1816, this church was greatly revived and enlarged, as were the other churches about that time. Rev. Mr. Peck, who was their minister two years, seems to have been the successful agent in the prosperity of the church, though in his memorandum of it he manifests his great modesty in referring only very slightly to himself.

Rev. John Mason Peck was born in Litchfield, South Farms, and was trained in the school of industry and frugality. He came to Amenia when a young man, and although his education was limited, he engaged in teaching awhile and then became minister of the church. In 1816, he went to Philadelphia to complete his education, and thence to Missouri, where he spent the remainder of his life in preaching and in the cause of higher education.

A pleasing memorial of this excellent man has been prepared by Rev. Rufus Babcock, D. D.

THE METHODISTS.

The Methodist Society of Amenia, which was one of the earliest in this part of the country, seems to have been formed in 1788, and numbered eight members,* David Rundall being the only male member for several years. The first sermon was preached in a private house, half a mile east of Sharon Station, and the first hymn sung begins "Thou Judge of Quick and Dead." The meetings were held in that house, or in the neighborhood, till the settlers from Rhode Island removed here—Wardwell, the Ingrahams and others—when a

* These were David Rundall, his wife Catherine, his wife's mother, Ruth Powers, wife of Peter, Ruth Powers, wife of Frederick, and three others.

society was formed near the Old Red Meeting House. It is understood that Mr. Garrettson formed the first class but he did not preach the first sermon. Captain Allen Wardwell was the first class leader.

The late Rev. Dr. Wakely called that part of Amenia "The Old Methodist Classic Ground." The important position of this society at that time may be inferred from the fact that the New York Annual Conference was held here. It was in 1808, and the sessions were held in the Round Top School House, about half a mile northeast of the Old Red Meeting House. Rev. Bishop Asbury presided and occupied the teacher's chair,* with the school desk before him, and the preachers sat upon the benches of the pupils. On the Sabbath, the Conference occupied the Red Meeting House, when the Bishop preached.

One hundred and three preachers were stationed at Conference. Ten were admitted on trial, one of whom was William Jewett. Fifteen were continued on trial; one of these was Phineas Rice. Eight were ordained elders, and one of the eight was Samuel Cochran.

Some families entertained ten or twelve of the preachers, and their horses, and the people were so gratified with the Conference that a committee waited on them with thanks for holding the session there, and invited them to come again.

The first church edifice of this society was built in 1812, a short distance east of the residence then of Thomas Ingraham, which remained until 1845. The New York Conference met in this church in 1813, when Bishops Asbury and McKendree presided.

At this Conference eighty-six preachers were stationed—the Conference having been divided since 1808.

* This chair is preserved as a commemorative relic,

At this session of the Conference, David Rundall entertained fourteen of the preachers.

George and Thomas Ingraham and Frederick Powers were pillars in this church for many years, and Peter Powers was widely known as an able exhorter and venerated leader. The first preachers who went out from this society were Robert and Elijah Hebard; many others have followed and the influence of the membership has gone into all parts of the land. The Amenia Seminary which has accomplished so much for the cause of good education, was the result of their enterprise.

THE CHURCH AT THE CITY.

Of the church at the City,* in the west part of the town, there are no very early records. The oldest record now known begins, "The Records of the church of Christ in the towns of Amenia, Washington, and Stanford, Dutchess county, A. D. 1787, commonly known by the name of the United Congregational Church of Christ in Westfield Society." Then again "April 9, 1787, A solemn fast was held and two sermons were delivered, one by the Rev. John Cornwall, the other by the Rev. Blackleach Burritt, after which the following persons signed the covenant."† During the year 1787 thirty-six other names were added.

This could not have been the first institution of religious worship and of the ordinances by that people, as there was a house of worship erected there in 1750, which gave place to another in 1814, both on the site of the

* The "City" received that name, at the first settlement of the place, because three log houses were built there near each other.

† Those who first signed the covenant in 1787 were Stephen Kinney, Robert Willson, Timothy Wheeler, Joshua Wells, Jun., John Curtis, Selah Wells, Wm. Bell, Elizabeth Willson, Elizabeth Wheeler, Mary Curtis, Rebecca Shumday, Abigail Kinney, Anna Elliot, Anna Adams, Afterwards, Asa Hollister, Elisha Adams, Roger Sontherland, Thomas Willson, Henry Kinney, Isaac Hunting, Robert Willson, Jun., Joel Smith, John Slawter, Elijah Allen, Benj. Denton, &c.

present church edifice.* That so many were ready to enter into covenant that year, and that they had a name by which they were "commonly known," indicate that this was a re-organization, or a more perfect organization of a Christian community.

In 1812, July 7, "The Society unanimously voted that the church give the Rev. Eli Hydet† a call to preach at the City Meeting-house, Smithfield Society, with this proviso, that all proper means be used to unite the two societies, and that the meetings be proportioned at the two houses as they shall agree.

The other "Society" and "House" refer to the Separate Meeting-house and Society,‡ which was located about two miles south of the City.

There are no records whatever or tradition that shows the origin of that society, or of its name, or the reason of any division among this excellent Christian people. Perhaps the cause of any strife is now happily forgotten.

It is a reasonable theory, suggested by the name, and by a history§ of the times, that a part of the church at the City became Separatists, or New Lights, and withdrew from the old church, in the early history of the congregation, when so many of the churches were agitated by that schism. The conservative and safer sentiments|| of the congregation seems to have prevail-

* In front of this church edifice was a little grove of oaks—one of which remains. Under the shade of this grove a great congregation were assembled, June 20, 1770, and heard a sermon by that wonderful preacher, George Whitefield. Every place where he ministered seems to have been remembered, and all who heard his discourse rehearsed it to the generations that came after them.

† Rev. Eli Hyde came to this church from Oxford, Chenango county, N. Y. Rev. Job Swift, D.D., afterwards of Bennington, Vt., was minister at the City in 1782.

‡ The Separate Meeting-house—now standing—was built some years before the revolutionary war. Rev. John Cornwall, of Cornwall, Conn., resided near and ministered there many years.

§ See Contemporary history.

|| There were in the City congregations a number of families from Long Island and other places in New York, who had enjoyed a high degree of culture and religious instruction, and who were evidently on the moderate side in those agitations.

ed pretty soon, and harmony was evidently restored, as we find the leading men of both parties associated in the interests of the congregations many years previous to the final organic union,

THE OBLONG SOCIETY.

The congregation in the Oblong valley was made up partly by families living in Connecticut, and the house of worship was at Amenia Union, and situated about twenty yards west of the colony line, on the hill west of E. Lambert's store, on land now owned by Wm. Blithman. It was a capacious building, with pews and galleries, and with doors on three sides. The roof had four sides, which terminated at the top in an ornamental cupola, which gave it the name of the "Round Top Meeting House." It was built previous to 1755,* and in 1786 it was taken down and another erected near where the present church edifice of the Society is situated.

The first preaching there, of which there is any record, was by a Moravian missionary, as we have seen in 1753. He was a German, and was naturally attached to the families of his countrymen settled here.

The congregation was composed of people of very diverse origin, Palatines, Huguenots, and Puritans, and their pastor was from Scotland. But a common desire for the ordinances of the gospel soon united them into a well-organized society.

The church was organized Dec. 11, 1759,† and the Rev. Ebenezer Knibloe was installed pastor.

* Deacon Ebenezer Hamlin, who died in 1755, bequeathed "twenty-four pounds, old tenor, towards the worship of God in the neighborhood where I dwell, viz., in or near the new-erected meeting-house, on the Oblong, near Sharon (Sedgwick's History.)."

† In 1859 the congregation of South Amenia held a memorial service in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary, and a historical discourse was read.

He was from Scotland, and received his education in Edinburgh, and came to this country in 1752. It was while he was a student of theology at Edinburgh, that the leaders in Scotland made that last bold strike in behalf of Prince Edward the Pretender, and the battle of Preston Plains was fought, which decided the fate of that unhappy prince. Mr. Knibloe, with some other young men, went out to witness the battle, and thus excited the suspicion of the government that he sympathized with the party of the Prince, which made it desirable for him to flee away.

Mr. Knibloe came to the Oblong from Philips Manor, in Putnam county, near "Mr. Kent's Parish."*

He was pastor of the church at Oblong about sixteen years, and the breach of this relation was brought about in consequence of his apparent loyalty to the British King at the beginning of the Revolutionary war—an attitude entirely contrary to that of the Presbyterian ministers of that day. But the evidence is clearly against the suspicion, through his conscientious regard to duty, from which he could not be driven, and perhaps some tenacity of will, led him to pray in public for the King and Royal family, which was sufficient in that excited condition of the public mind to raise the charge of disloyalty to his adopted country. It afterward became the conviction of the people that Mr. Knibloe was not disloyal, and from about the end of the war till the close of his life in 1785, he continued to preach to the acceptance of the people.†

In answer to the charge of disloyalty, Mr. Knibloe says, "When I read the ministerial charge, it was to go

* The son of Mr. Kent, and the father of Chancellor Kent, was a friend of Mr. Knibloe.

† The house which Mr. Knibloe built for himself is about half a mile southeast of Amenia Union. His sons were John, William, Elijah, and Joseph. The three first named died in the great epidemic of 1812. Mr. Stephen Knibloe is his grandson.

forth and preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. I look on it that government has nothing to do in the province of religion but to guard the empire of truth from every persecution, and leave the kingdom of Heaven to its own Lord." "I am conscious to myself that I have ever wished and prayed for the welfare, happiness, liberty, and charter privileges of the British colonies in North America; likewise for the deliverance of our distressed brethren in Boston, and also for success to attend the armament and military preparations, which have already gone forth and are about to march in defense of American liberty."

This appears to have been written about the time of the battle of Bunker Hill, when all eyes were turned towards Boston.

While the British army held New York, the distinguished Dr. John Rodgers, pastor of a Presbyterian church there, left the city, as many others did, and found a safe retreat in the country.* He came here in 1778, and ministered to the people about two years. He was regarded with the highest respect by the people and his influence was in the highest degree salutary. His biographer says that "through the influences of his ministrations in Amenia the congregation was greatly benefitted and improved and the former harmony restored." The Rev. Dr. Livingston also spent some time with the congregation during the war; also Rev. David Rose,† who was pastor of a Presbyterian church on Long Island.

The names of about a hundred and sixty heads of families are recorded, most of whom were parishioners‡

* There was no more safe retreat than this, nor any place in the land more completely out of the way of the disturbing effects of the war.

† Rev. David Rose was a graduate of Yale.

‡ The first deacons in Mr. Knibloe's church were Samuel Waterman and Meltiah Lothrop. Thomas Delano was elected in 1772, and Moses Barlow in 1775.

of Mr. Knibloe, which indicates a population* nearly equal to the present in the same limits. The number of marriages by Mr. Knibloe was 320, and the number of baptisms was 581—delightful testimonies to the prosperity of that generation.

These are some of the members of Mr. Knibloe's church:—Alexander Spencer, Ellis Doty, Joseph Chamberlain, and his wife, Abigail, Meltiah Lothrop, Daniel Rowley, Silas Belding, and his wife, Samuel Waterman, and his wife, Isaac Hamlin, and his wife, Benjamin Hollister, and wife, Benjamin Hollister, Jun., and wife, Daniel Castle, and wife, Ezra Reed, and wife, James Reed, Elijah Reed, and wife, Reuben Swift, Stephen Warren, and wife, Colbe Chamberlain, and wife, Moses Barlow, and wife, Eliakim Reed, and wife, Margaret Chamberlain, Priscilla Lovel, Jediah Bumpas, Hannah Swift, Dorcas Belding, Joanna Barlow, and many others.

The leading members of the Society in 1786, when they removed and rebuilt the church edifice, and in 1796, when they purchased the Parsonage Farm,† were these, James Reed, Moses Barlow, Walter Lothrop, Stephen Warren, Gideon Castle, Eliakim Reed, Elisha Barlow, Seth Swift, Moses Swift, Benjamin Delamater, Conrad Row, Samuel Row, Nicholas Row, Oliver Kellogg, Elisha Tobey, Ebenezer Hatch, Reuben Allerton, John Cline, John Boyd, Amariah Winchester, Amariah Hitchcock, Sylvanus Nye, William Young, Samuel Hitchcock, Ezekiel Sackett, Martin Delamater, Gershom Reed, Jedidiah Bump, and Azariah Judson.

The condition of the congregation, so many years,

* The population of Amenia in 1790 was 3,078.

† In 1796 the Society bought the farm of Elphalet Everett—the west part of J. H. Cline's farm—160 acres, for a parsonage, for which they paid £660—\$1650.

affirms the testimony to the value of a pious, learned, and stable ministry.

After the close of the Revolution, there was evidently a decline of religion in this congregation, as in the others of the town, and perhaps from the same causes, which seemed to be the distracting spirit of the times; and not till about 1812 was there the beginning of a return to prosperity in these churches.*

After the death of Mr. Knibloe, several ministers were employed temporarily, and for short periods, till 1802, when Rev. John Barnet, A. M., was engaged for an indefinite time, and his ministry was acceptably continued till 1812, the time of his service including 1802 and 1812.

Mr. Barnet was a native of Simsbury, Conn., and was a graduate of Yale College, where he was, after the war, a tutor. He was a thorough scholar, and a successful teacher of young men, many of whom he had under his instruction while in Amenia.†

In the revolutionary war, Mr. Barnet was a chaplain, first in Col. Hopkin's regiment of Amenia at Saratoga, and afterwards in the regular army, where he was highly regarded by Washington.

Mr. Barnet's preaching was didactic and logical, rather than practical; instructive to a certain class, but not effective with the many. It was unfortunate for the congregation that he did not consider himself their pastor, but only a hired preacher, and, consequently, he omitted those services of a pastor, which are essential to the highest success of the ministry.

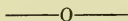
* There is in these societies, as in all other agricultural communities, a serious decrease of attendants upon public worship, owing to a general decrease of rural population, particularly of the native laboring people, whose place is filled by foreigners of opposite religious attachments.

† Among the pupils of Mr. Barnet in Amenia were Abraham Bockee, Allen Hollister, Perlee, Fish, and several sons of Hon. Ambrose Spencer. Mrs. Barnet was a sister of Judge Spencer. Mr. Barnet died at the residence of his son in Greene county in 1837.

A Fourth of July oration by Mr. Barnet in 1812 was published ; also a funeral sermon for Ambrose Spencer, Jun., who was killed at the battle of Lundy's Lane. Capt. Spencer had been a pupil of Mr. Barnet in Amenia, and though very young, was aid to Gen. Brown when mortally wounded July 25, 1814.

In 1815, the scattered remains of the old church were gathered together, and with considerable additions a reorganization was effected. Rev. Joel Osborn became the pastor, and from that time there has been a regular succession of settled pastors to the present.

CIVIL ORGANIZATION.



The "Precinct" of Amenia was formed by an act of the Colonial Legislature, March 20, 1762. The geographical limits were the same also of the "town" of Amenia, which was formed March 7, 1788, and continued the same till March 26, 1823, when the towns of Amenia and Northeast were so reorganized as to change the boundary between them as it is at present. This territory had been a part of Crum Elbow Precinct,* and was about twelve miles in length, and of an average width of four and a half miles.

The name *Amenia* was first used about the time of the organization of the Precinct, and owes its origin† to Dr. Thomas Young, a learned gentleman who resided

* The municipal regulations of a precinct were nearly the same as of a town. At the first Precinct meeting, "It was resolved that the thanks of this meeting be given to Robert Livingston and Henry Livingston, for their favor and regard to the Precinct of Amenia in procuring a division of the same,"—that is a separation from the larger precinct. Crum Elbow Precinct extended from the Hudson River to the Connecticut line. Charlotte Precinct was west of Amenia. Crum, or Krom, seems to have been the name of a family in the west part of the Precinct. Crum Elbow ("Crom Ebogh") Creek enters the Hudson there.

† The name is from a Latin word, which signifies pleasant. "*Amœna*, Pleasant. *De locis præcipue dicitur.*"—applied principally to places. Though so suitable a name, and agreeable, it had not been given to any other town in the country.

several years at Amenia Union, where he had married a daughter of Capt. Garret Winegar.

Hon. Egbert Benson, in a Memoir read before the N. Y. Historical Society,* in 1816, says "Vermont—*green mountains*—and the town of Amenia—*pleasant*—owe their names to the fancy of Young, the poet. I mean the American, and not the English Young. He had a peculiar facility in making English words from Latin ones."

Dr. Young was the author of a poem,† called "The Conquest of Quebec," in which he gives an account of the provincial troops that were sent from the several towns to aid in that campaign under Wolfe, which resulted in the capture of Quebec. He was the friend of Ethan Allen,‡ who resided in Salisbury,§ Conn., while the former resided in Amenia, and they were often together, and they were also in sympathy in the violence of their patriotism and in their religious unbelief.

FIRST TOWN MEETING.

The record of the first town meeting is this:—"At the Annual Town Meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Precinct of Amenia, on the first Tuesday of April, Anno Domini 1762, at the house|| of Ros-

* P. 126, N. Y. Hist. Collection, Vol. II.

† Only a few lines of the poem are now known.

‡ "Appendix to Early History of Vermont" says of Young, "He was highly distinguished as a philosopher, philanthropist and patriot, and for his erudition and brilliancy of imagination, Dr. Young is supposed to have died in Philadelphia in 1777, leaving in America two accomplished daughters."

§ Ethan Allen was one of the three men who built the first blast furnace in Salisbury.

|| The place of the first Town Meeting, and of the subsequent Town Meetings for many years, was near where the Old Meeting House stood. The house of Roswell Hopkins stood near the Meeting House. The residence of his father, Capt. Stephen Hopkins, who was the first Supervisor, was further south towards the fair grounds, and was in later years reached by a lane from the highway. Mr. Henry Ingraham resided there several years. The Totten house, where W. P. Perlee lived, was built by one of the sons of Capt. Stephen Hopkins. The Town Meeting was held at Capt. Abiah Palmer's first in 1789. There was no highway east from Amenia. Where the turnpike now runs there was a swamp. There was a road running east and west across the hill north of Hiram Cooper's.

well Hopkins, Esq., Michael Hopkins was chosen Clerk of said Precinct, and Capt. Stephen Hopkins was chosen Supervisor.

Samuel Doty and Jonathan Reynolds were chosen Assessors for the year ensuing.

Benjamin Benedict, Abraham Paine, and Moses Barlow were chosen Overseers of the Poor.

Conrad Winegar was chosen Collector and Constable.

Samuel Shepherd, Rufus Herrick, and Ichabod Rogers were chosen Constables.

Thomas Wolcott and Jonathan Reynolds were chosen Pound Keepers.

Captain Stephen Hopkins and Samuel King were chosen to take Inventories of Intestate Estates for the year ensuing.

Miles Washburn, Benjamin Benedict, and Roswell Hopkins were chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Thomas Wolcott, John Beebe, Joseph Pennoyer, Philip Pitts, Samuel Shepherd, William Barker, William Roberts, Edmund Perlee, Moses Harris and Job Milk were chosen Overseers of Highways.

Also voted that a Fence, four feet and four inches high, well-wrought and substantial, shall be deemed lawful."

In 1763, Edmund Perlee was chosen Supervisor.

In 1764, 1765 and 1766, Stephen Hopkins was chosen Supervisor.

In 1767, Edmund Perlee was chosen.

In 1768 and 1769, Ephraim Paine was Supervisor.

In 1770, Abraham Bockee was chosen Moderator of the Town Meeting and Ephraim Paine was chosen Supervisor, and continued to 1776.

In 1776, Silas Marsh was chosen Supervisor, and in

1777 and 1778, Roswell Hopkins. In 1779 and 1780, Dr. John Chamberlain. In 1781, Col. Colbe Chamberlain. In 1782 and 1783, Ephraim Paine. In 1784, Isaac Darrow was Supervisor.

Michael Hopkins was Town Clerk till 1773, when Roswell Hopkins was chosen and continued till 1784.

Capt. Stephen Hopkins and Samuel King continued to take Inventories of Intestate Estates for several years.

The Justices of the Peace—from the Crown, of course—were Abraham Boka, Ephraim Paine, Roswell Hopkins, and Conrad Winegar.

In 1772, Ezra Reed, Job Milk, and Elijah Wheeler were chosen Overseers of the Poor, “and are to serve for nothing.”

CIVIL LIST.

The following named citizens of Amenia have served in various official positions.

Ephraim Paine was Deputy to the First New York Provincial Congress in 1775.*

Jacob Evertson was a Deputy to the N. Y. Provincial Congress in 1776.

Ephraim Paine was a delegate in Congress† under the Articles of Confederation in 1784.

Ephraim Paine was a member of the N. Y. Senate from Middle District in 1779, 1780, 1782, 1784 and 1785.

Reuben Hopkins, a native of Amenia, was a member of N. Y. Senate from Middle District from 1794 to 1797.

Elisha Barlow was a member of N. Y. Senate from Middle District‡ from 1807 to 1810.

* This Provincial Congress convened in New York May 23, 1775, and adjourned Nov. 4, 1775. Col. Anthony Hoffman, Gilbert Livingston, and Richard Montgomery were among the delegates from Dutchess county.

† The number of delegates in that Congress from this State were seven. Of these were Egbert Benson, John Jay, &c.

‡ The Middle District was composed of Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties.

Abraham Bockee was a member of N. Y. Senate from 1842 to 1845.

Abiah W. Palmer was a member of N. Y. Senate 1868-69 and 1872-73.

Edmund Perlee was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1801.

Elisha Barlow was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1821.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY OF STATE OF NEW YORK
FROM AMENIA.

Brinton Paine, 1775-81 and 1785-87.

Abraham Paine 1781-82.

Barnabas Paine, 1793.

James Bockee, 1794.

Jacob Bockee, 1795-97.

Wm. Barker, 1798, 1800.

Platt Smith, 1798-99.

Elisha Barlow, 1800, 1802.

Benajah Thompson, 1804, 1808, 1809.

Benjamin Herrick, 1806.

✓ Cyrenus Crosby, 1808.

Alexander Neely, 1810-11.

Joel Benton, 1814, '15, '17, and '31.

Isaac Smith, 1816.

Abraham Bockee, 1820.

Taber Belden, 1828, '37.

Joel Brown, 1833.

Henry Conklin, 1833, '34, '39 and '40.

John K. Mead, 1844.

Amos Bryant, 1840.

Walter Sherman, 1845, '47.

James Hammond, 1848-49.

Wm. H. Bostwick, 1854.

Abiah W. Palmer, 1860.

OTHER OFFICES HELD BY CITIZENS OF AMENIA.

Ephraim Paine was appointed First Judge of Dutchess county in 1778, which was also the first appointment to the office of Judge in Dutchess county after the organization of the government of the State of New York.

Abraham Bockee was appointed First Judge of Dutchess county in 1846.

Elisha Barlow was one of the Judges of the County Court in 1808.

Abraham Bockee was Member of the U. S. Congress in 1829-31 and 1833-37.

Ebenezer Nye was Surrogate of Dutchess county in 1821.

John Brush was Surrogate in 1819.

E. M. Swift was District Attorney in 1843, and B. Platt Carpenter in 1858.

Thomas N. Perry was Sheriff in 1840, and Judah Swift in 1861.

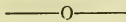
Jacob B. Carpenter was Presidential Elector in 1861.

Hon. William H. Leonard, son of Dr. Leonard, and a native of Amenia, was elected one of the Judges of the Supreme Court in 1859, and was afterwards one of the Judges of the Court of Appeals, and was also Commissioner of the Court of Appeals.

Hon. George G. Reynolds, of Amenia, is now, 1875, serving as one of the Judges of the City Court of Brooklyn.

Hon. William I. Cornwall, of Cayuga county, son of Eden Cornwall, and grandson of Rev. John Cornwall, has been several times Member of the Assembly and of the Senate.

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.



In the war of the Revolution the patriotism of the citizens of America was expressed with promptness and almost entire unanimity. On the 29th of April 1775, only ten days after the battle of Lexington, a meeting was held in the city of New York of those ready to oppose the oppressive acts of the British government. An Association was formed and a Pledge adopted, which was sent for signatures into every county of the State.

THE PLEDGE.

“Persuaded that the salvation of the rights and liberties of America depend, under God, on the firm union of its inhabitants in a vigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its safety, and convinced of the necessity of preventing anarchy and confusion which attend a dissolution of the powers of government, WE, the Freemen, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of America, being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the Ministry to raise a revenue in America, and shocked by the

bloody scene now acting in Massachusetts Bay, do in the most solemn manner resolve never to become slaves, and do associate, under all the ties of religion, honor, and love to our country, to adopt and endeavor to carry into execution whatsoever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention, for the purpose of preserving our constitution and of opposing the several arbitrary acts of the British Parliament, until a reconciliation between Great Britain and America, on constitutional principles (which we most ardently desire) can be obtained; and that we will in all things follow the advice of our General Committee respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of peace and good order and the safety of individuals and property."

This Pledge of the "Association" was presented to the citizens of Amenia for their signatures in June and July of 1775, by Roswell Hopkins, Samuel King, and Silas Marsh, a committee appointed for that purpose, and four hundred and twenty subscribed to the pledge, and only six delayed or refused to sign.

Those who persisted in refusing to sign were Joel Harvey, Philip Row, Samuel Dunham, Judah Swift and Peter Slason.*

The qualifications in their subscription to the pledge by three of the justices of the peace of the town, shows a scrupulous conscientiousness rather than any want of patriotism; and their regard for their oath of office rather gives a serious emphasis to their act. Isaac Smith subscribed with this limitation, "I do agree to the above Association so far that it doth not interfere

* Mr. Slason never accepted the situation. He lived in South Amenia near his brother-in-law, Capt. Wm. Chamberlain, and after the war, when the pole was raised in that part of the town, crowned with the cap of liberty, Mr. Slason was brought to it with a rope around his neck and required to confess his loyalty. He knelt down before this emblem of the nation's freedom and cried out "Great art thou, O Baal."

with the oath of my office, nor my allegiance to the King.—ISAAC SMITH.” Abraham Bockee made this qualification “Not to infringe on my oaths.—ABRAHAM BOCKEE.”

John Garnsey refused at first, and afterwards gave this declaration.—“June 8, 1775. This may certify to all people whom it may concern that I, the subscriber, am willing to do what is just and right to secure the privileges of America, both civil and sacred, and to follow the advice of our reverend Congress, so far as they do the Word of God and the example of Jesus Christ, and I hope, in the grace of God, no more will be required. As witness my hand. JOHN GARNSEY.

This stern old Puritan distinctly asserted the principles of the “higher law,” and he was not less heroic in asserting the rights of men.

Those who signed the Pledge of the Association were called “Associators,”* and the subscription to the Pledge was pressed upon individuals—with a degree of rigor, perhaps, sometimes—as a test of their loyalty.†

A Committee of Safety was appointed here as in other towns in the country. Besides those already mentioned, Capt. Wm. Chamberlain, in the east part of the town, was very active. The vigilance of the Committee was particularly directed to the movements of the Tories, or those suspected of a want of loyalty to the country, and any hesitation in signing the pledge was the occasion of suspicion and accusation awhile, to the disturbance of society, and the violent zeal of some of the leaders led them to rebuke the moderation of others who were equally steadfast in their patriotism. It is quite probable that some may have been brought

* The list was sometimes called the “Roll of Honor.”

† Mr. Marsh, in his return of names to the committee, says “I am compelled to remind you of James Smith—out of my limits—who is notoriously wicked.”

to a decision by the prompt and vigorous measures of the Committee. It became evident, however, that a most remarkable unanimity of loyal sentiment prevailed in the town, while in many other towns of the county a very large number were openly hostile to the action of the patriots.

A rude prison, constructed of logs, was used for confining Tories and any other suspected persons. This was built about half a mile east of the present village of Amenia* and north of where the turnpike now runs. The remains of this prison were there a few years ago.

THE CENTENNIAL.

The returning Centennial of each important act in the great drama of the Revolution is now celebrated with appropriate ceremonies, that there may be kept alive in the minds of all the people a just estimate of the work of their fathers, and of the principles which were asserted at such a cost. It is now just a hundred years since the citizens of Amenia by this subscription put their hand to the work of the Revolution; and we are, at this distance of time, better able to estimate the character of that important act.

It is certain that a very large proportion of those who joined in the pledge were well informed on the questions at issue and knew the serious nature of their action. This is intimated by the religious regard they had to their oaths. The civil and religious rights of individuals and the limits of state authority had been subjects of their study all their lives.† Persecution had

* The reader will bear in mind that there was no village where Amenia now is, no highway where the turnpike now runs, and that the central place of public business of the town was by the Red Meeting House, near the burying ground.

† It is recommended by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church that a memorial discourse be preached in every Presbyterian church on the Sabbath preceding the 4th of July, 1876, to preserve the history of that church, and to commemorate the patriotism of the ministers and christian people of the Revolution. A large number of these members of the patriotic league were members of the christian societies of the town.

driven some of them from homes in the old country, and others, who had come out of New England, had been educated to a very jealous sense of personal responsibility and personal rights. They were not led in haste by any political faction to rash excitement. They understood the central truth of the Revolution,—*that it was not rebellion, but a positive assertion of rights which they had always justly held, and a determined resistance to newly-imposed bonds.*

It is not any less to the honor of their patriotic virtue and courage that they did not foresee the greatness of the end of this incipient act; that, with the great leaders of the people, in the beginning of the contest, "They builded wiser than they knew." [Ephraim Paine]

ROLL OF HONOR.

Names of the Citizens of Amenia who subscribed the Pledge.

The names of those patriotic citizens, who did not hesitate to show their hands in this serious crisis, are fortunately preserved and are recorded now, as a fit memorial of their loyalty and courage, which will be regarded with just pride by those who recognize in these names those of their ancestors and relatives, and former citizens of Amenia.

More than three hundred of these names are mentioned in other records of the town, or are known as belonging to families then residents. One hundred and fifty of these, or more, were independent, separate landholders.

Several of the patriots must have been absent. Ephraim Paine was attending the Provincial Congress. Benjamin and Waight Hopkins had already gone with

Ethan Allen. Reuben Hopkins, Jacob Bockee, and some others, who are known to have been true, are not mentioned.

The number of names given with those added which are known, making 435, gives some intimation of the population of the town at that time.

The present spelling of the names of families is adopted, as the manuscript in many cases seems to have been very uncertain.

Thomas Ackley,
 Abraham Adams,
 Abraham Adams, Jun.,
 Elisha Adams,
 Jonas Adams,
 Joseph Adams,
 William Adams,
 Jonathan Allerton,
 James Allen,
 James Allsworth, Jun.,
 William Allsworth,
 Solomon Armstrong,
 Cornelius Atherton,
 Benjamin Atwater,
 John Atwater,
 Levi Atwater,
 Joseph Backus,
 James Barker,
 William Barker,
 Elisha Barlow,
 Moses Barlow,
 Nathan Barlow,
 Henry Barnes,
 Josiah Barnes,
 James Barnet,
 John Barnet,
 John Barnet, Jun.,
 Daniel Barry,
 John Barton,
 John Barry,

James Beadle,
 Elisha Beardsley,
 John Benedict,
 Samuel Benedict,
 John Benson,
 Joseph Benson,
 Ebenezer Besse,
 Elias Besse,
 Ephraim Besse,
 James Betts,
 Daniel Blakely,
 William Blunt,
 Abraham Bockee,
 John Boyd,
 Jared Brace,
 Edmund Bramhall,
 David Brewster,
 Ellis Briggs,
 Benjamin Brown,
 David Brown,
 Moses Brown,
 Zedekiah Brown,
 John Bruson, Jun.,
 John Bronson,
 Lemuel Brush,
 Richard Brush,
 William Brush,
 Ezra Bryan,
 Israel Buck,
 Jonathan Buck,

Zadock Buck,	Caleb Dakin,
Grover Buel,	Isaac Darrow,
Grover Buel, Jun.,	Daniel Davidson,
Jedidiah Bump,	Squire Davis,
Eli Burton,	Isaac Delamater,
Isaac Burton,	John Delamater,
Isaac Burton, Jun.,	Martin Delamater,
Judah Burton,	Benjamin Delano,
Ebenezer Carter,	Stephen Delano,
Daniel Carter,	Joseph Delavergne,
Gideon Castle,	Lewis Delavergne,
Colbe Chamberlain.	John Denny, Jun.,
John Chamberlain,	Abraham Denton,
William Chamberlain,	Benjamin Denton,
Increase Child,	John Denton,
James Chapman,	Benjamin Denton, Jun.,
Jeremiah Chapman,	Joel Denton,
Ezra Cleaveland,	Gabriel Dickinson,
Josiah Cleaveland,	Versal Dickinson,
John Cline,	James Dickson,
Peter Cline,	Samuel Dodge,
Led. Ch. (?)	John Dunham,
David Collin,	Nehemiah Dunham,
John Collin,	Samuel Dunham, Jr.,
Barnabas Cole,	Seth Dunham,
John Connor,	Benjamin Doty,
Joab Cook,	David Doty.
Simeon Cook,	Joseph Doty,
Simeon Cook, Jun.,	Reuben Doty,
Nathaniel Cook,	Jacob Dorman,
Samuel Cornwall,	John Douglass,
Thomas Cornwall,	John Drake,
William Cornwall,	Jacob Elliot,
John Coe,	Archibald Farr,
Jabez Crippen,	John Farr,
Benjamin Crippen,	Albert Finch,
Benjamin Crofut,	William Finch,
Enoch Crosby,	Jonathan Fish,
John Curry,	Asa Fort,
Elijah Darley,	Ephraim Ford,
Mahew Dagget, Jun.,	James Ford,

John Ford,
 William Ford,
 Nathaniel Foster,
 Joseph Fowler,
 Benjamin Fowler,
 Elijah Freeman,
 John Freeman,
 Robert Freeman,
 Robert Freeman, Jun.,
 Abraham French,
 John Furman,
 Thomas Ganong,
 Daniel Garnsey,
 John Garnsey,
 John Gates,
 Nathaniel Gates, Jun.,
 Gerard Gates,
 Stephen Gates,
 Nathaniel Gates,
 Abner Gillett,
 David Gillett,
 Gardner Gillett,
 Joseph Gillett,
 Moses Gillett,
 Barnabas Gillett,
 Eleazar Gillson,
 Jeduthaw Gray,
 Joseph Gray,
 Samuel Gray,
 Joseph Green,
 Timothy Green,
 William Hall,
 Richard Hamilton,
 Jason Hammond,
 Sylvester Handly,
 Daniel Harvey,
 Obed Harvey,
 Obed Harvey, Jun.,
 Moses Harris, Jun.,
 Samuel Hart,
 Abel Hebard,

James Hebard,
 Robert Hebard,
 Benjamin Herrick,
 Benjamin Herrick, Jun.,
 Samuel Herrick,
 Stephen Herrick,
 Stephen Herrick, Jun.,
 Nathan Herrick,
 Rufus Herrick,
 William Herrick,
 Abner Holmes,
 Elijah Holmes,
 Benjamin Holmes,
 Ichabod Holmes,
 John Holmes,
 Samuel Holmes,
 Benjamin Hollister,
 Samuel Hollister,
 Noah Hopkins,
 Roswell Hopkins,
 Asa Hudson,
 William Hunt,
 Jonathan Hunter,
 John Howard,
 Samuel Jarvis,
 Benjamin Johns,
 Ezekiel Johnson,
 Paul Johnson,
 Robert Johnson,
 Samuel Johnson,
 Eben Johnson,
 John Jones,
 Samuel Judson,
 Heath Kelly,
 Simeon Kelsey,
 Joel Ketchum,
 Samuel King,
 Samuel King, Jun.,
 William King,
 Elijah Kinney,
 Ebenezer Kinney,

Jesse Kinney,
 Stephen Kinney,
 William Knapp,
 Zadock Knapp,
 Ebenezer Larabe,
 Richard Larabe,
 Joshua Lasell,
 Daniel Lamb,
 David Lamb,
 Isaac Lamb,
 Thiel Lamb,
 Ebenezer Latimer,
 Elisha Latimer,
 Thomas Lawrence,
 Theophilus Lockwood,
 Walter Lothrop,
 John Lloyd,
 Isaac Marks,
 Isaiah Marsh,
 Silas Marsh,
 William McCullough,
 Daniel May,
 Levi Mahew,
 Thaddeus Manning,
 Obed Matthews,
 Benjamin Maxam,
 John McNeil,
 Ebenezer Mayo,
 Elijah Mayo,
 James Mead,
 John Mead,
 Job Mead,
 King Mead,
 Isaiah Mead,
 John Mears,
 Abel Merchant,
 John Merchant,
 Job Milk,
 Wright Millman,
 William Mitchell,
 Eleazer Morton,

William Moulton,
 Thomas Morey,
 John Mordack,
 Peter Morse,
 Abial Mott,
 Thomas Mygatt,
 Sylvanus Nye,
 Levi Orton,
 John Osborn,
 Isaac Osborn,
 Josiah Osborn,
 Owen Osterhout,
 James Palmer,
 Samuel Palmer,
 Nathan Palmer,
 Abraham Paine,
 Barnabas Paine,
 Brinton Paine,
 David Paine,
 Elihu Paine,
 Barnabas Paine, Jun.,
 Ichabod Paine,
 Ichabod Paine, Jun.,
 James Paine,
 Joseph Pennoyer,
 Amos Pennoyer,
 Ebenezer Park,
 Isaac Park,
 Edmund Perlee,
 Robert Patrick,
 Jonathan Pike,
 Nathaniel Pinney,
 Jacob Powers,
 Joest Powers,
 Peter Probasco,
 Thorn Pudney,
 Monmouth Purdy,
 Elijah Porter,
 David Randle,
 Eliakim Reed, Jun.,
 Elijah Reed,

Ezra Reed,
 Gershom Reed,
 James Reed,
 Silas Reed,
 Simeon Reed,
 Jacob Reynolds.
 Stephen Reynolds,
 William Reynolds,
 Ichabod Rodgers,
 Ichabod Rodgers, Jun.,
 William Roberts,
 Silas Roe,
 Elijah Roe,
 Garnet Row,
 Nicholas Row,
 James B. Row,
 Bezaleel Rudd,
 Zebulon Rudd,
 David Rundall,
 Jared Rundall,
 Ezra St. John,
 Ezekiel Sackett,
 John Sackett,
 John Sackett, Jun.,
 Richard Sackett,
 Benjamin Sage,
 Daniel Sage,
 Rufus Seaton,
 Abner Shevalier,
 Elias Shevalier,
 Peter Shevalier,
 Richard Shevalier,
 Solomon Shevalier,
 Asahel Sherwood,
 Parrock Sherwood,
 Daniel Shepard,
 Israel Shepard,
 Jonathan Shepard,
 Samuel Shepard,
 John Seymour,
 John Scott,

Lemuel Shurtliff,
 Abraham Slocum,
 George Sornborger,
 Frederick Sornborger,
 Samuel Southworth,
 Elijah Smith,
 Elijah Smith, Jun.,
 Isaac Smith,
 Jesse Smith, Jun.,
 Platt Smith,
 Thomas Smith,
 James Smith, Jun.,
 Joseph Smith,
 Samuel Snyder,
 Jacob Spicer,
 Nathan Spicer,
 Elnathan Spalding,
 Andrew Stevens,
 Elkanah Stevens,
 Lot Swift,
 Nathaniel Swift,
 Samuel Swift,
 Seth Swift,
 Bowers Slason,
 Matthew Stevens,
 Joshua Talent,
 John Thayer,
 Beriah Thomas,
 Thomas Thomas,
 Samuel Thompson,
 Samuel Thompson, Jun.,
 Ezra Thornton,
 Joel Thurston,
 John Thurston,
 Timothy Tillson,
 Shubal Tyler,
 John Torner,
 Seeley Trowbridge,
 David Truesdel,
 Adin Tubs,
 Benjamin Vaun,

Matthew Van Deusen,
 William Young,
 Elijah Wood,
 Robert Wood,
 Stephen Warren,
 Daniel Washburn,
 Joel Washburn,
 David Waters,
 Samuel Waters,
 Daniel Webster,
 Thomas Welch,
 Josiah Wells,
 Samuel West,
 Noah Wheeler,
 Seth Wheeler,
 Solomon Wheeler,
 Simon Whitcomb,

Josiah Wells,
 Gilbert Willet,
 Josiah Williams,
 Justus Willson,
 Reuben Willson,
 Robert Willson,
 Lawrence Wiltsey,
 William Wiltsey,
 Ashbel Winegar,
 Conrad Winegar,
 Garret Winegar,
 Henry Winegar,
 Henry Winegar, (2)
 Samuel Winegar,
 Dier Woodworth,
 William Wynans, Jun.

NEWS OF THE BATTLE OF LEXINGTON.

When the news of the battle of Lexington reached Amenia, the militia companies came together with a spontaneous will, like men who had something to do. "They were addressed by Ephraim Paine, Esq., in a masterly oration," in which he rehearsed the matters which had brought the country to so serious a crisis, pointed to the tyrannical measures of England, intended to enslave this country, now already begun in blood, the danger of America, and that the time had come to step forth with manly courage to resist the force of lawless invasion.

"At the close of this address," says one* who was present, "the whole audience, officers and privates, caught the flame as from an electric shock, and were ready to march to the seat of war." Simeon Cook,

* Barnabas Paine, Esq., who left in writing many valuable statements of the times. He was the father of the late Barnabas Paine, Esq.

captain of one of the companies, addressed his men. "Fellow soldiers, the time is come to give up our liberties, or defend them with the musket. As many of you as are willing to march with me to the scene of action, I will lead, and I will expose myself to all the dangers and hardships that you will be exposed to. If any of you are unwilling to go you are dismissed." It is added that not one left the ranks.

SOLDIERS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

These are names of the soldiers, as far as now ascertained, who were residents of Amenia :

Noah Wheeler,	Simeon Reed,
Simeon Cook,	Samuel Reed,
Benjamin Hopkins,	Edmund Perlee,
Waight Hopkins,	Nathan Conklin,
Roswell Hopkins,	Lemuel Hatch,
Reuben Hopkins.	Oliver Hatch,
Noah Hopkins,	Peter Cline,
Brinton Paine,	Jesse Brush,
Jacob Bockee,	Elisha Barlow,
Jabez Flint,	James Bump,
Jacob Powers,	Conrad Chamberlain,
Job Mead,	Samuel Gray,
Job Mead, Jun.,	William Chamberlain.
Moses Harris,	Garret Winegar,
William Barker,	Mackey,
Alex. Spencer, Jun.,	Jones Knapp,
Daniel C. Bartlett,	Silas Ray,
William Blunt,	Barzilla Andrews,
David Rundall,	Isaac Osborn,
Roger Southerland,	Dr. Reuben Allerton,
✓ Increase Child,	Ephraim Lord,
Joseph Mitchell,	Bezaleel Rudd,
James Reed,	Joshua Newman,
✓ Judah Burton,	Isaac Delamater,
Silas Reed,	Colbe Chamberlain,

David Doty,
John Benedict,
Joel Denton,
John Congdon,
Warum Kingsley, (?)
Stephen Edget,
Amos Pennoyer,
Jesse Pennoyer,

Jeduthan Gray,
Asa Hollister,
Samuel Benedict,
John Ford,
Reuben Doty,
Samuel Waters,
William Brush,
Ichabod Holmes.

OFFICERS IN THE WAR.

The following notices of officers, who were residents of Amenia, are compiled from the Calendar of Historical Manuscripts, relating to the War of the Revolution.

July 27, 1775, Waight Hopkins was chosen Captain in a regiment of Green Mountain Boys under Colonel Ethan Allen and Lieut.-Col. Seth Warner.

Oct. 17, 1775,—The date of commissions to officers in Regiment No. 6, of Militia of Dutchess county.

David Southerland, Colonel,
Roswell Hopkins, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Simeon Cook, Major
Richard De Cantelon, Major,
Joseph Carpenter, Adjutant,
Daniel Shepherd, Quarter-master,

First Company.

William Barker, Capt.,
Job Mead, 1st Lieut.,
Noah Hopkins, 2d Lieut.,
Abner Gillett, Ensign,

Second Company.

Brinton Paine, Capt.,
Samuel Waters, 1st Lieut.,
Ichabod Holmes, 2d Lieut.,
Jesse Brush, Ensign,

Third Company.

Joshua Laselle, Capt.,
Colbe Chamberlain, 1 Lt.,
David Doty, 2d Lieut.,
Elisha Barlow, Ensign,

Fourth Company.

Robert Freeman, Capt.,
Elijah Smith, 1st Lieut.,
Ezra St. John, 2d Lieut.,
Noah Wheeler, Ensign,

Major De Cantelon was not a resident of Amenia, but was probably a professional soldier, appointed to

that regiment for the instruction of the officers and men in the military art.

Oct. 17, 1775,—Minute Men of Amenia Precinct.

Regiment under Col. John Van Ness.

James Reed, Major,		Increase Child, Capt., ✓
Reuben Hopkins, Adj.,		John Lloyd, 1st Lieut.,
Jos. Ketcham, Jr., Q. M.,		William Blunt, 2d Lieut.,
Josiah Morse, Ensign.		

1775.—Officers in Gen. Clinton's Brigade recommended to him for the standing army.—

Col. Graham, Capt. Brinton Paine, Lieut. Hopkins,

1775.—Rufus Herrick was appointed Captain in a Dutchess county regiment.

Apr. 12, 1776.—Officers in Col. James Clinton's regiment of Continentals,—

Increase Child, Capt., John Lloyd, Lieut

1776.—Petition of Officers of Col. Graham's regiment for the appointment of Dr. Abraham Teller to be Surgeon of said regiment.—Morris Graham, Col., Roswell Hopkins, Lieut.-Col., Wm. Barker, Maj., Reuben Hopkins, Adj., Elisha Barlow, Capt., Stephen Edget, Lieut., Samuel Waters, Lieut., and others.

Oct., 1776.—Capt. Edget resigns on account of sickness.

Dec. 14, 1776.—In Committee of Arrangements, *Resolved*, that Brinton Paine, Esq., be appointed Capt. in Col. Dubois' regiment.

MOUNT INDEPENDENCE, Nov. 15, 1776.—Lieutenant David Doty has obtained leave of Major-Gen. Gates to join the N. Y. troops; we recommend the said Doty as a worthy officer and one that has performed his duty to universal satisfaction as Adjutant and Lieutenant.

NATHANIEL BUEL, Col.,
JOHN SEDGWICK, Maj.

Jan., 1777.—Officers recommended for commissions according to their rank in Col. Humphrey's regiment.

Brinton Paine, Major,		Edmund Perlee, 1st Lieut.,
Wm. Chamberlain, Capt.,		Reuben Doty, 2 Lieut.,
John McNeil, 1st Lieut.,		David Doty, Adj.

Jan. 7, 1777.—Capt James Reed petitions to be relieved from the operation of the rules adopted in regard to the transportation of flour to the army at the eastward. Capt. Reed was Assistant Commissary, and was directed to send flour for the army at the east, but was hindered by a certain embargo on flour crossing the colony line. Judah Swift disregarded these orders of the Provincial authorities, and sent, in the night, two sleigh loads of flour to the east by way of Kent. On the Kent road, near the colony line, the drivers encountered the guard, whom they overpowered. The object of this embargo seems to have been to prevent the flour going into the hands of the enemy. Trusty persons received a permit to go with the flour to certain points, and in several cases these persons agreed to bring back a load of salt.

Feb. 7-15, 1776.—Account of guns delivered to Capt. Child and appraised by Dr. Chamberlain, C. Marsh and C. Atherton.

			£	s	d
1	Gun of Stephen Warren,	.	3	0	0
1	" " Levi Orton,	.	1	10	0
1	" " Jedidiah Bump,	.	2	15	0
1	" " Benjamin Delano,	.	2	0	0
1	" " Peter Cline,	.	1	15	0
1	" " Nathan Barlow,	.	2	5	0
1	" " Benjamin Hall,	.	2	0	0
1	" " Sylvanus Nye,	.	3	15	0
1	" " Gershom Reed,	.	2	10	0
1	" " Eliakim Reed,	.	3	10	0
1	Pistol of Joseph Pennoyer,	.	0	10	0

This is taken from a memorandum found among the papers of Capt. James Reed. It shows the means to which Congress was obliged to resort to furnish fire-arms to the soldiers.

April 22, 1777.—Major Brinton Paine is a prisoner in New York, “and is not like to come out.” “The Major tells the guards that he is in a just cause, and if he gets out he will fight them again.”

April, 1777.—The lead mines at Great Nine Partners were explored, with some success, by an agent of Congress. The lead mines were on the lands of Mr. Fish, in Amenia, and were explored at the suggestion of Moses Harris. The Commissioners appointed by the Provincial Congress were Jonathan Landon and Ezra Thompson, and they employed John McDonald, an experienced miner from Scotland, who appears to have come over for the purpose of aiding the people in their struggle. The work at these mines was continued through the season, as reported by Mr. McDonald with great particularity. This John McDonald was of the distinguished Highland family of McDonalds, and his wife was the grand-daughter of Rob Roy MacGregor, one of Walter Scott's heroes. Mr. McDonald was the father of John McDonald, well known in Dutchess county fifty years ago, and of Miss Anne McDonald, very extensively known on account of her position in Judge Smith's family. She came with her father from Scotland when a child, and on account of the reduction of his estate by the worthlessness of continental money, she entered Judge Smith's family as a governess. After Judge Smith's death, she became, through her remarkable executive ability, almost the sole manager of his large estate, and continued in that position many years.*

* The McDonald burying-ground is in the north-west corner of old Amenia, near the Row School-house, where the several generations of the family in this country are buried.

Sept. 17, 1776.—Cornelius Atherton petitions the N. Y. Council for the exemption from military duty of his workman, engaged in the manufacture of fire-arms in his contract with Congress.*

NOTICES OF INDIVIDUAL SOLDIERS.

“Captain Cook,” says Mr. Paine, “was afterwards deservedly promoted to the rank of Major, and was distinguished for his courage and steadiness† in battle near Fort Independence,‡ in 1777.” “It was in this action also that Captain Noah Wheeler and Col. Roswell Hopkins were noticed for their bravery, and also privates Amos Pennoyer and Jeduthaw Gray, who were all from Amenia.”

Five sons§ of Capt. Stephen Hopkins were officers. Waight and Benjamin joined the Green Mountain Boys, under Col. Ethan Allen and Lieut.-Col. Seth Warren, and were both killed by the Indians. Roswell Hopkins was Colonel, and took part with his regiment in the battles at Saratoga. Dr. Reuben Allerton was Surgeon of the regiment in that campaign, and it is understood that Rev. John Barnet was Chaplain, who was afterwards Chaplain in the Continental army. Reuben Hopkins, the youngest of the brothers, and who was born in Amenia in 1748, was Adjutant in Col. Graham's regiment. In the beginning of the war of 1812, he was appointed one of the eight Brigadier Generals|| of N. Y. State, being then a resident of Orange county.

* He was engaged at the Steel Works.

† Mr. Paine says that “Major Cook was a tall, spare man, and of singular steadiness of manner, which gave him the name among his neighbors of ‘Old Steady.’”

‡ This was the Fort Independence near Peekskill.

§ One had died.

|| Lossing's “War of 1812,” page 366.

Captain William Chamberlain was very active among the citizens of the town, as one of the Committee of Safety in the beginning of the war; and in 1777 he received a commission as Captain in Col. Humphrey's regiment, and entered the army under Gates, and took part in the battles at Saratoga, which resulted in the capture of Burgoyne.

Brinton Paine was transferred to the regular army in Col. Dubois' regiment, which was in Gen. Clinton's brigade. Col. Dubois had served in Canada, and he commanded the right wing at the battle of Klock's Field, near the Mohawk, in 1780. In April, 1777, Maj. Paine was a prisoner.

In Oct., 1777, the Militia of Dutchess county were called to the defense of the Highlands.*

Jacob Bockee was a Captain of a company in the regiment under the command of the gallant Col. Marinus Willett.

Moses Harris, Jun., served in the dangerous duty of a spy, and was greatly confided in by Washington. He was rewarded for his services, after the war, by a grant of land in Westfield, Washington county, N. Y., now the town of Fort Ann. Mr. Harris resided in the northwest part of the town.

"Alexander Spencer, Jun., was a volunteer in Arnold's expedition to Quebec, and died on the march."†

Daniel C. Bartlett was the son of a Congregational minister, who on the breaking out of the war gave him on the Sabbath his sword, which he had newly ground, and told him to go and defend his country. Mr. Bartlett went with Montgomery to Quebec, and was at the

* This was the most perilous year of the war for Dutchess county. The enemy were threatening the passes of the Highlands on the south, their armed vessels moved up the Hudson, and Burgoyne's army moved slowly from the north. Our Militia were called at times in both directions to meet the invasion.

† Sedgwick's "History of Sharon."

capture of Fort St. John, in Nov. 1775. He was also present at the burning of Danbury in 1777.

Increase Child, who lived in the southeast part of the town, was a Captain in the Continental troops.

Joseph Mitchell was a private in the regulars.

Jesse Pennoyer enlisted during the war at the age of sixteen.

Jabez Flint entered the service at the beginning of the war and joined the army near Boston. His next service was near New York, when the retreat was made from Long Island, and his company escaped with peril from Governor's Island. In 1777, he entered the regular army for three years, and went to Philadelphia, and the next winter he experienced the sufferings of Valley Forge. Afterwards he became Assistant in the Quarter-Master's Department, and then Assistant in the Commissary's Department.

Judah Burton was in the Commissary's Department. Capt. James Reed was in the Commissary's Department temporarily; so also was Capt. Isaac Delamater.

Samuel Gray was in the regular army through the war, and had the reputation of a good soldier. He lost his life, in 1826, by falling into a well.*

Capt. William Chamberlain was at the battle of Bennington, and with him was Mackey, a small colored man, who had been a slave and gained his freedom by his patriotic services. He lived near Amenia Union in his little home, which was also given him for his service.

Garret Winegar was a Forage Master, and died before the close of the war.

Silas Ray was in the Continentals, perhaps in the Artillery. He lived on the road that leads to Kent.

* "Little Sam Gray would have another shot," said one of the officers at the close of a battle.

Dr. Reuben Allerton was Surgeon at Saratoga, and as he used to say, "dressed the wounds of friend and foe."

Ephraim Lord was much of the time absent in the army, and his energetic wife managed his estate well in his absence.

Bezaleel Rudd, from the north part of the town, went with Ethan Allen.

David Doty was a very active officer, and somewhat restless. He was transferred, as we see in another place, from the Litchfield county Regiment.

Jeduthan Gray and Amos Pennoyer are honorably mentioned.

Capt. Elisha Barlow was temporarily in the service.

David Rundall served in two campaigns, one north and one south, in 1775 and 1776.

It is understood that some of the soldiers from this vicinity were infected with that prejudice towards Gen. Schuyler, which was so unjust to that excellent officer and pure patriot, and which was soon after happily removed.

Jones Knapp, who lived many years at Ebenezer Hurd's, was in the regular army through the war; was present at the execution of Andre; was at the capture of Cornwallis, and, on his way returning from the south, visited Mount Vernon.

Warum Kingsley? Doubtful. He was very young. But he was present at the Massacre of Wyoming.

Some of those whose names are given in the preceding columns were in the service only temporarily.*

* There were undoubtedly a large number of privates, who went into the service from Amenia, whose names are not here, as there are no records within reach of the compiler. and he is obliged to draw only from tradition and the very meagre records of family history. This will excuse the imperfections in this list.

JUDGE PAINE.

Among the civilians in Amenia, who rendered valuable services in the wars, none were more worthy of record than the Hon. Ephraim Paine, who was a man of marked character in public and private life, and was one of the first to stir, by his eloquent voice, the patriotism of the people. He was employed from the beginning of the war—as the “Civil List” shows—in offices of very high responsibility and honor, which placed him by the side of some of the greatest men of the new republic; and he was equally ready to associate with his neighbors in the minor offices of the town. His incorruptible integrity and firmness were not the less heroic for being accompanied with Puritan simplicity of manners. Judge Paine was not ambitious of place—as strong men are apt to be—nor was he dictatorial; but he was disposed to be positive and uncompromising, which exposed him somewhat to the charge of obstinacy. He was very singular in the simplicity of his manners and habits, but not boorish, and his theory of the social and political equality of all men, which he held as a religious conviction, was expressed in a literal and extravagant manner. He held that as all men are equal, there should be no distinctions in dress or equipage; he wore, therefore, the dress of a laboring man in the halls of legislation and in the house of worship.*

It was an aphorism with him that “all men should be treated alike.” It is quite probable, therefore, that there was sometimes a disregard of that respectful deference to men in official and dignified positions, which

* His clothes were not untidy, but coarse and plain, the manufacture of his own household.

the rules of polite society require, and it was the magnanimity of his courtly associates that led them to overlook these outward faults of his character in their thorough respect for the unquestioned sound qualities of the man.

Judge Paine's religious character was evidently somewhat tinged by his sympathy with the Separatists, or New Lights, among whom some of his relatives were distinguished leaders.

It is unfortunate that the unselfish devotion to the public service and the purity in private life of this excellent citizen should be less remembered than his eccentricities.

Many ludicrous mistakes are told of, which resulted from Judge Paine's plainness of dress, some of which have been magnified and colored in amusing stories. He was at one time treated as a menial by the landlady, where he was to stay during his attendance at court in Poughkeepsie. The only rebuke which he gave to the mortified lady, when she apologised for her mistake, was, "You should treat all men alike."

It is an authentic story that a gentlemen who rode in haste to the house on public business gave him his horse to hold while he should go in and speak to Judge Paine. It is also true that a gentleman was looking over the farm for Judge Paine, and found a man ditching, and asked him, "Where is your master?" "In Heaven, sir," was his ready and not irreverent answer.

Judge Paine's education had been without the aid of schools, but his mind was disciplined to a habit of clear apprehension and accuracy, which made him on many occasions in his public service a valuable advisor in matters of finance. It is proper to say that he opposed decidedly the financial policy of Gen. Hamilton.

There is a notice of his family in its proper place.

In 1785, Sep. 25, a few weeks after the death of Judge Paine, the Poughkeepsie *Journal* contained a fitting eulogy, supposed to have been from the pen of Judge Platt. — *Zephaniah Platt* —

Judge Paine was a member of the Senate when he died.

Silas Marsh, who was called "Lawyer Marsh," was one of the most active patriots of those in civil life, and Mr. Samuel King appears to have been one of the wise counsellors of the time.

There was evidently among the leaders in this town a high respect for the character and services of Hon. Egbert Benson.

INCIDENTS OF THE WAR.

This part of the country was singularly free from any disturbance by the near approach of the enemy, or by any movements of our troops. The people here, it is said, heard the sound of the cannon at the battle of Long Island, and they saw the smoke of burning Kingston, but it "did not come nigh them." The nearest encampment of the Continental troops, at any time, was at Pawling, in 1778. In the summer of that year a large number of prisoners—mostly Hessians*—taken at the battle of Saratoga the year before were marched through this town on their way to Fishkill, where they crossed the Hudson. During all the time that the British held New York, much of the communication between the Eastern and Southern States was necessarily through Dutchess county. Several notes are made of the travel

* Some of the Hessians earnestly solicited the people to aid them to escape, and some succeeded and remained in this country.

through Dover and the south part of Amenia by American and French army officers and others.

In the early part of the war, a man called at Judge Paine's in his absence, and was suspected by Mrs. Paine to be a British spy, and she persuaded him to partake of some refreshments, which caused his delay, while she sent for two patriots,* and caused his arrest. He was, however, an American spy, engaged in his legitimate enquiry, and the Committee of Safety, who knew him, were obliged to use some deception in planning his escape, in order that his person and real character should not be revealed. He was sent under guard on his way to Poughkeepsie, but made easily his escape.

A young man, by the name of Samuel Jarvis, went from Amenia, leaving his wife and two children here, and joined the British army. He went to England after the war, married again, and continued in the military service. After almost an hundred years, his legitimate family here have recovered his estate left in England.

Resolutions calling out the Militia of Westchester, Dutchess, and Albany. In Convention of Representatives of State of New York. Fishkill, Dec. 21, 1776.

“ *Whereas*, It appears highly probable that the enemy's army meditate an attack upon the passes of the Highland on the east side of the Hudson River, and the term of enlistment of the Militia under the command of Gen. Clinton expires on the first of this month, and,

Whereas, His Excellency Gen. Washington has warmly recommended to this State to exert themselves in procuring temporary supplies of Militia,

Resolved, That the whole Militia of Westchester, Dutchess, and part of Albany be forthwith marched to

* The men sent for by Mrs. Paine were Elder Wood and Mr. James Palmer.

North Castle, in Westchester county, well equipped with arms and ammunition, and furnished with six days' provisions, and blankets, and a pot or camp kettle to every six men, except such persons as the field officers shall judge cannot be called into service without greatly distressing their families, or who may be actually engaged in the manufacture of saltpetre, or of shoes and clothing for the army

Resolved, that the Militia be allowed Continental pay rations, and that such men as cannot furnish themselves with arms shall be supplied from the public stores."

The commanders of regiments were empowered to hire or impress as many teams as were necessary for transportation of baggage.

Commissary-Gen. Trumbull was notified to make timely provision for the subsistence of said Militia.

Col. Chevers, Commissary of Ordnance, was applied to for a loan of small arms for those destitute.

THE TORIES OF DUTCHESS COUNTY.

In 1777, while Burgoyne was threatening the northern part of the State, a considerable body of the Tories of Dutchess county were collected at Washington Hollow, and made a formidable demonstration of their hostility. "An expedition was immediately set on foot to break up the gang." A company of fifty or sixty started from Sharon, Conn., and was joined on the way by others till the party amounted to two hundred. They halted for the night a little north of the Hollow, and in the morning made an attack upon the Tories, who fled and as many as could made their escape. Thirty or forty of them were made prisoners, and were sent to Exeter, in New Hampshire, where they were kept in

close confinement for two years. No more trouble was made by the Tories here during the war.*

ROBBERIES.

In the disturbed condition of society, incident to the war, lawless and rapacious men used the opportunity to indulge their spite, or to gratify their greed in plunder. In the near vicinity of the armies, and particularly on the "neutral ground," the losses of the inhabitants, and the dangerous annoyances, which were endured from marauding parties were terrible, and even in this safe retreat, there were instances of robbery.

Philip Nase, Sen., and his wife, who lived where their son, Corneilius, afterwards had his house,† had lain up and secured in a treasure chest, a considerable sum of gold and silver money, and other valuable treasures. Four men in the disguise of British officers and soldiers, came one evening, armed with axes, and demanded the key of their treasure, and threatening death to the family on any resistance. The key was surrendered, and every part of the treasure was carried off, and never recovered or heard from again. It is not believed that the robbers were British officers and soldiers, who would not have been armed with *axes*, on such an expedition.

The oldest son of Philip Nase, Sen., Henry, was a Tory of so positive a character that he left the country, and made his home in Nova Scotia. It is said that, before he left, he had concealed in some haste, in the night, at the foot of the mountain, a sum of money—

* Sedgwick's "History of Sharon."

† The house where Mr. Nase lived, and where the robbery was committed, was on the opposite side of the highway from the house now there, and was removed many years ago.

eighteen hundred dollars in silver. When he returned to take it away, he was not able to find the place, and it is supposed to be there, perhaps, to this day.

The attempted robbery of Capt. David Collin, father of the late Capt. James Collin, came to a different sequel from the other. A company of robbers, supposed to be some well-known Tories, came to Mr. Collin's house, in the absence of his wife, and demanded his money and other treasures, which they probably knew he possessed. Upon Mr. Collin's persistent refusal to give up his treasure, or reveal the place of its hiding, the miscreants proceeded to hang him, and would probably have carried their purpose to a fatal issue, but for the timely coming of his wife, who saved his life and their treasure.

The name of this heroic wife was Esther Gillett Collin. It is understood that the family have some memorandum of this event, and of treasures concealed.

EARLY RESIDENTS OF AMENIA.

These are arranged in alphabetical order, for the convenience of the compiler and of the reader.

This is not intended to be a genealogy of the families of Amenia. One or two generations beside the first settlers are in some cases mentioned, only to indicate their relation to present families. The records of genealogy, that valuable and interesting branch of history, are very properly made by many families for themselves. It is consistent with the plan of this work to leave out everything, with few exceptions, that does not belong to the early history of the town.* Of a large number of the early residents no records can be found but their names.

* These notices of old families are put in as few words as possible; and the plan of making the work as condensed as consistent with completeness is sufficient apology for any want of smoothness of style.

Elisha Adams was the proprietor of "Adams' Mill,"* in the west part of the town. The right to the mill privileges and to raise water without limit was ceded to him by Judge Johnson. He was the first white settler on N. P. Lot 32, west of the mountain. Some of the family have remained in that place till within a few years.

Abraham Adams, Jun., is mentioned in 1765.

Darius Adams, 1765; Joseph Adams, 1762; John Adams, 1757.

James Allsworth, Jun., lived in the northeast part of the town.

Isaac Allerton, of Windham, Conn., purchased the farm of Abner Gillet—now the James farm—in 1787. Mrs. James was his daughter, and his sons were Jonathan, David and Reuben. Jonathan preceded his father, and was a resident of Amenia in 1775. His wife was Bathsheba Mead. David was the father of Archibald and Isaac, and his wife was a Montgomery, a relative of Gen. Montgomery. Dr. Reuben Allerton preceded his father here a few years, and commenced the practice of medicine about 1778, first at Amenia Centre, and in 1785 he removed to Oblong, where he lived awhile in the John Reed house, and afterwards till his death close by the Presbyterian church—now of South Amenia. It was probably immediately after the completion of his medical studies that he entered the service as Surgeon in Col. Hopkins' regiment, which was in 1777. Dr. Allerton was of a genial, pleasant humor, and very spicy wit. He died in 1806, aged 54. His wife was the daughter of James Atherton. The family was descended in direct line from Isaac Allerton, of the May Flower. Dr. Allerton's son, Samuel, and his

* This mill was burned, and another one, now remaining, was built in its place.

daughter Amarillas are now living at an advanced age.*

James Atherton, from Canterbury, Conn., was a resident of Sharon, where Zalmon Hunt now lives; then went to New Jersey, and thence removed to Amenia, where he died. He was a gentleman of excellent learning, and had spent some time as a teacher in North Carolina, and returned from there on account of his intolerant hatred of slavery.

Rodger Andrews lived in the south part of the town, near Seth Swift's, where he reared a large family.

Cornelius Atherton, son of James, was an iron manufacturer, and had a contract with the government in the war to make fire-arms for the soldiers. He removed in the early part of the war to Wyoming, and was there with his family at the time of the massacre, and escaped with them with very great difficulty.

Col. William Barker was the father of the late John Barker, and lived on the same farm. He served the town in several civil offices, and was active in the military in the Revolution, and served also in the Legislature, as recorded in its place. His wife was Chloe, daughter of Mr. John Bronson, and they were married in 1763.

Deacon Moses Barlow and his brother, Nathan, came from Sandwich (or Cape Cod), in 1756, and purchased of Meltiah Lothrop the farm afterwards the home of the Swifts, and which they exchanged for the one where Moses Barlow settled, and which is still held, a part of it, by his grandson, Franklin Barlow.† Their father, Peleg Barlow, came with them at the age of 67, and died in 1759. Moses Barlow was the father

* Dr. Cornelius Allerton and Milton Allerton were his sons. Mrs. Thos. Barlow and Mrs. Taber Belden were his daughters.

† The Barlow farm was on the "Clapp Patent," Oblong Lot No. 47, and was purchased of Mr. Samuel Judson

of Elisha and Thomas and several daughters. Hon. Elisha Barlow occupied several important public trusts, —as shown by the “Civil List”—and was honored for his integrity and firmness, and was a gentleman of dignified manners. He had a numerous family. His oldest son, Thomas, was the father of the Hon. Thomas Barlow, of Madison county. Peleg, Moses, John, Obed, Elisha, and Jesse Barlow were sons of Judge Barlow. The Barlows, before they left the Cape, had been seafaring men, and in an experience of the perils of their business, resolved to place their fortunes on solid ground, and this led them to their new home. They came by water to Poughkeepsie, and there has been to this time a grateful recognition by the family of hospitalities received at the Newcombs in Pleasant Valley on their journey here. (How many pleasing episodes would be revealed by the diaries kept by any other of these families in their interesting journeys to their new homes).

William Balis, Esq., was the father of the late Abiah P. Balis.

Daniel C. Bartlett, from Redding, Conn., bought of Joel Gillett, in 1803, the farm now owned by his grandson, W. S. Bartlett. His heroic conduct in the war is mentioned in its proper place. He was the father of William and Collins Bartlett, and his daughters were Mrs. John Barker, Mrs. Thomas Paine, and Mrs. Wm. Paine.

Elihu Beardsly, from New Milford, was living in the Dr. Leonard house, near George H. Swift's in 1773. He was a tanner. His wife was the daughter of Joseph Chamberlain.

Ebenezer Benham was one of the early settlers on Tower Hill, which is in the southwest corner of the town.

Joseph Benson was an early resident of the south part of the town, where the family have remained in considerable numbers.

Zerah Beach, Esq., resided a few years near South Amenia, where he was engaged in trade about 1790. He was one of the leaders at Wyoming, who signed the articles of capitulation. One of his daughters was the wife of James Warren. It was his grandson who was the plaintiff's lawyer in the great trial at Brooklyn of Tilton against Beecher.

Bela E. Benjamin, the father of Mrs. C. Wesley Powers, Elijah Park Benjamin, and Horatio N. Benjamin, married Louisa, daughter of Elijah Park.

Caleb Benton, of Guilford, Conn., purchased of Capt. Lasell, in 1794, the place now owned by his grandson, Myron B. Benton. He was the father of Joel and William. The immigrant ancestor of Mr. Benton was Edward Benton, one of the first settlers of Guilford, who were, most of them, from the agricultural county of Kent, in England, and were noted for the very neat style of their farming. Mr. Benton left Guilford, because of the very inconvenient division of his lands there.* He paid for his land here 15 or 16 dollars per acre in specie, which he brought with him on horseback. When the family removed they came to Poughkeepsie by water in a sloop. Joel Benton, Esq., was much occupied in public business, and was four times elected to the Legislature.

About 1743, Silas Belden, of Wethersfield,† Conn., settled near the foot of Plymouth Hill, on a large tract

* The farm lands in the southern part of Connecticut are, many of them, very inconveniently disconnected.

† The ancestor of Mr. Belden was one of the early settlers in the ancient town of Wethersfield, and we find Deacon Joseph Belden a leading man there in 1706.

of land which his father purchased in New York,* and which was described afterwards as situated in Charlotte and Amenia Precincts. The sons of Silas Belden were Silas, Jun., and Lawrence. Joseph Belden was the son of Silas, Jr., and was the father of Taber Belden, whose home in the south part of the town is now occupied by his son. The land of Taber Belden was formerly a part of the Knickerbocker farm. Taber Belden was twice a member of the Legislature, and very often served the public as a wise counsellor.

BOCKEE.—Soon after 1750, Abraham Bockee came from New York, where he had been a merchant, to Nine Partners, and entered upon land purchased by his grandfather, in 1699, and which has been in the possession of the family to the present time. He was one of the Colonial justices, appointed by the Crown, as early as 1761, at which time he is mentioned as “a Mr. Bokay,† a justice of the peace, at Nine Partners, near a place called the City.” The immigrant ancestor of Mr. Bockee was Johannes Bockee (*Boka*‡), who came to this country in 1685, and who was of that “noble Huguenot stock, that has contributed so many families of worth and distinction.” Abraham Bockee, who came to Nine Partners, was the father of Jacob Bockee and the grandfather of the late Judge Abraham Bockee. Jacob Bockee, a graduate of King’s College, N. Y., was Captain in the Revolutionary war of a company in Colonel Marinus Willet’s regiment, and was a member of the Assembly in 1795 to 1797, where he introduced a bill for the abolition of slavery in this state. His wife was

* Mr. Belden purchased this valuable tract of land when in New York, and without seeing it. It remains most of it in possession of the family.

† Documentary History, III., 985.

‡ “Boka.” This is the proper pronunciation and was formerly the only one. This fragrant old Huguenot name should have its proper sound.

sister of the late Judge Isaac Smith.* Judge Abraham Bockee held several honorable positions in civil life, as shown in another part of this record. Though decided in his political convictions, he sometimes resisted the dictation of his party, and followed what he conceived to be right and for the public welfare. Phenix Bockee, a brother of Abraham, was Lieutenant in the war of 1812, and died in Po'keepsie in 1814.

Some of the Bockee family went to South Carolina, and it is a reasonable supposition that the gallant Col. Henry Bouquet, who was distinguished in the war with the Indians in 1763, was of the same family, and that he retained the original spelling of the name.

Captain John Boyd was of Irish descent—probably Scotch-Irish—and came here from Orange County previous to 1769, and he returned and resided there again a few years. He married the daughter of Esq. Conrad Winegar, and resided a little south of Amenia Union in a house which he built—now standing—where he died in 1817. He was the father of Samuel,† Gilbert, David and others.

Noah Brown was the ancestor of many of that name in the north part of the town—now in Northeast.

Lemuel and William Brush, sons of Reuben Brush, from Long Island, lived in the west part of the town, not far from the City. Lemuel married Mary Perlee, and his sons were Perlee, Jesse, Platt, John and Henry. Jesse was an officer in the Revolutionary war.

Gen. John Brush, who was a lawyer in Po'keepsie, commanded the Dutchess county troops at Harlem Heights, in the war of 1812, and was afterwards Major-Gen. of Militia.

* Jacob Bockee and his brother-in-law, Judge Smith, and Judge Johnson, were very intimate, and dined together once a week at each other's houses.

† Samuel Boyd lived where I. Hunting Conkling now resides, on the land which came by his wife, a daughter of Judge Paine.

Col. Henry Brush was Captain of Ohio Volunteers in the war of 1812, and was on his way to Detroit with 230 men, 100 beef cattle, and other provisions, and a mail, when Gen. Hull surrendered, Aug. 16, 1812. Capt. Brush had arrived at the river Raisin, and was in imminent danger, through the negligence of Hull to send a reinforcement, of falling into the hands of the Indians, under Tecumtha. When notified on the 17th by a British officer, with a flag of truce, of Hull's surrender of his army, including his own command, he refused to accept the notice as authoritative, and escaped with his stores to Ohio.* The compiler has been informed orally that Capt. Brush purposely allowed the whiskey among his stores to fall into the hands of the Indians, which so demoralized them that they were unable to pursue the retreating party.

Moor Bird was born in New Marlborough, Mass., in 1756. He married the daughter of Louis Delavergne, and lives where his son, the late Henry Bird, did. His other sons were Augustus and Milo. He was of the same family as Rev. Isaac Bird, who has compiled a genealogy of his family.

Edmund Bramhall married a daughter of Deacon Moses Barlow. He was a carpenter, and built, before the Revolutionary war, the Deacon Barlow house, now standing.

John Bronson was the father of Mrs. Wm. Barker.
"Dea. John Brownson died in 1785, aged 85."

Jedidiah Bump, and his brother James, came from Granville, Mass. They were probably of Huguenot descent, the original name being "Bon-pas," then "Bumpas," and "Bumpus."

Mr. Bump owned the east half of J. H. Cline's farm,

* Lossing's "War of 1812," pp. 273-290.

where he built a house, removed many years ago. He afterwards removed to the farm where his daughter, Huldah, now lives, 1875.* His sons were Roswell, Elijah, and Herman.

Judah Burton came from Horse Neck, now Stamford, Conn., previous to 1762. His house, which he built, and which was afterwards the home of his son, Daniel, is the brick house, now the residence of Edmund P. Carpenter. Mr. Burton's wife was Huldah Stanton, of Horse Neck. Sarah Burton, daughter of Judah, became the wife of Ezra Thompson, Jun. Daniel Burton, the son of Judah, was the father of Abraham and Warren Burton.

Eli, Isaac, Josiah, and Elijah Burton were early residents of the west part of the town, and near the City. Isaac Burton, a man of good estate, was a citizen of Amenia in 1751. He is supposed to have been a brother of Judah.

Judah Burton was an officer in the Revolutionary war, in the Commissary Department, and is spoken of as "Commissary-General."

Ezra Bryan, one of the true Whigs of the Revolution, and father of the late Amos Bryan, lived in the north part of the town, where the family have since resided. Ezra Bryan, David, and others are of that family. Amos Bryan was Member of Assembly in 1840.

Rufus Case was a resident of Amenia previous to 1800.

The ancestors of the Carpenter family of this town and vicinity came from England to Massachusetts in 1638; thence to Long Island, in 1686. In 1752, Daniel Carpenter purchased land in Crom Elbogh Precinct, near Salt Point, where he died in 1777. His son, Ben-

* She died in February, 1875, aged 92.

jamin, being excessively persecuted by the Tories*—which is an evidence of his persistent patriotism—sold his land there, and purchased the lands, which, with subsequent additions,† made in part the farm of his son, Hon. Morgan Carpenter, now of Mr. Isaac S. Carpenter. Benjamin Carpenter purchased also for his sons, S. Pugsley and Daniel, the Evertson farm in Amenia, south of the City, where Daniel Carpenter remained till his death. Daniel married Zayde Perlee. Morgan married Maria, a daughter of Jacob Bockee.

Daniel Castle, Esq., came from Roxbury, then a part of Woodbury, Conn., some time previous to the year 1758, and settled at South Amenia, where he was keeping a tavern at that date. He was one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace. Gideon Castle, his son, built a house, where the South Amenia Post-Office is, and afterwards purchased the James Tanner farm, where he remained. He was largely concerned in the purchase and sale of land. Esq. Castle's daughter was the wife of Capt. James Reed.

Joseph Chamberlain came from Tolland, Conn., in 1755, and settled on the farm afterwards owned by the Nye family, where he is supposed to have built the house now on the place. He was buried near the Steel Works, in 1765. His sons were Colbe, James, John, and William. Col Colbe was the father of Joseph, Conrad, and Henry. John was a physician of acknowledged skill, and lived awhile in Po'keepsie. Capt. Wm. Chamberlain, the father of Oliver and James, lived on the farm now owned by J. H. Cline, and kept a tavern there, which was much frequented in the time of the

* This was at the time when the Tories of Dutchess county put on such a bold front, and gathered their forces at Washington Hollow. Mr. Carpenter was three times robbed by them.

† These lands were purchased of Daniel Shipard, Moses Harris, Samuel Pugsley, Job Swift, Dr. John Miller and others.

Revolution. He was in the battle of Bennington, Saratoga and other fields, and he with his brothers were very zealous patriots. The family possessed a large fund of pleasant humor, which is not yet exhausted.*

Solomon Chase lived in several places in this town and in Kent. He married the daughter of Joseph Chamberlain, Sen. His son, Stephen Chase, was the only surviving passenger in the celebrated wreck of the *Albion* in 1822. He was on his way to England to look after an estate. The Chase family are supposed to have some hereditary right in a large estate there now.

Ezra Clark was from Lisbon, Conn., and was the ancestor of that family now in Northeast. He was the father of Douglas Clark, Esq., of Moses, and of Elijah. Major Elijah Clark lived near the outlet of Chalk pond, and died before middle life.

Solomon Chandler kept a store near Amenia Union, in 1791. He lived awhile in the John Reed house.

Capt. Increase Child, who lived near South Amenia, was an active officer in the Revolutionary war. He was the ancestor of Dr. Joseph Child (?). One of his sons was Mark Antony Child.

Peter Cline (Klein), a native of Germany, came here from Rhinebeck, in 1760. It is understood that he left Germany about 1752 or 1753. He was one of those called "Redemptioners," who paid for their passage to this country by their service here afterwards, to which they were bound by the captain, who brought them over. Some noble examples of honor are recorded of these men, in redeeming their pledge, and Mr. Cline's was a singular instance of scrupulous honesty, in that through the dishonesty of the captain, he was led to

* Daniel Hebard, John J. Hollister, and Samuel S. Winegar married daughters of Col. Colbe Chamberlain. The wife of Capt. William Chamberlain was Abigail Hatch, of Kent. His daughters were Mrs. Solomon Freeman, Mrs. Roswell Bump, Mrs. Archibald Allerton and Mrs. Gilbert Boyd.

serve out here the time for his redemption, notwithstanding he had paid for his passage before he left Germany.

Mr. Cline bought of Capt. Isaac Delamater, where his great-grandson, Edward E. Cline, now lives, one-half of Oblong Lot, No. 49, for ten dollars and a half per acre.

He left one son, John Cline, who died in 1845, aged 89, and one daughter, the wife of Allen Hurd.

Mr. Cline's was an example of industry, frugality and honesty, leading to thrift, and that kind of thrift, which tends to the elevation of character and social standing.*

Major Nathan Conklin, of the north part of the town, was from East Hampton, L. I., from which place he came here in 1781.

He was a public-spirited and intelligent gentleman, and was frequently Moderator of the Town Meeting.

Major Conklin purchased his land in Amenia of Brush.†

Capt. Benjamin Conklin, the father of Dr. Ebenezer H. Conklin, of Amenia Union, was from Norwalk, Conn. He lived in Sharon many years, and in the later years of his life near Amenia Union.

Captain David Collin, father of the late Capt. James Collin, and others, was born in Milford, Conn., in 1734, and came to Amenia previous to 1764, where he acquired by his industry a fine estate. He was the son of John Collin, who was born in France in 1706, and who migrated to this country on account of religious persecution, and settled in Milford. He was commander of

* The sons of Mr. John Cline were Peter, Allen, Philo and Ebenezer. Peter removed to Otsego county. One of the daughters of John Cline was the wife of Asa Hurd. Another was the wife of Thos. Swift. Mr. Cline's wife was Lucy Philips.

† The late Captain John H. Conklin was the only one of Major Conklin's sons who remained in Amenia. The others, and the daughters, were residents of Poughkeepsie.

a ship sixteen years, and was lost at sea at the age of forty years.*

David Collin married Lucy Smith, and after her decease, Esther Gillet, who was the mother of James.

He was a Lieutenant in the French war, and was present at an unsuccessful attack on Fort Ticonderoga.

It was he whom a company of marauders attempted to rob.

Rev. John Cornwall, father of Eden B. Cornwall, and grandfather of Hon. W. I. Cornwall, was from Cornwall, Conn. He lived at the Separate and ministered there, and at the City, and occasionally at the Red Meeting House.

The highway at the Separate is on the boundary line between Amenia and Stanford, which is also the line between Lot No. 22 and Lot No. 32 of the Nine Partners. There was placed many years ago near the Separate a monument to affirm the location of this line. Two stones were placed across, below the surface of the earth, where they might be found by one who was present.

Major Simeon Cook was an influential citizen in the earliest years of Amenia Precinct, and when the war broke out, he was one of the first to put his name to the Pledge, and to give himself to the actual work of the war. His wife was the daughter of Ephraim Lord, whose house stood where the Seminary now is, and after the death of Mr. Lord, Major Cook came in possession of the place, and left it to his youngest son, Col. Solomon Cook. His other sons were Lot and Simeon, Jun.

Joshua Culver was married in 1767, and Joshua Culver, Jun., learned the tanner's trade of Capt. Wm.

* A complete genealogy of John Collin, of Milford, Conn., has been published by Hon. John F. Collin, of Hillsdale, N. Y.

Young at Amenia Union. Mr. Culver, Jun., the father of Backus Culver, established his business at Pine Plains, where he conducted it with success. The family have been much identified with the people of Amenia.

Dr. Cyrenus Crosby was the successor of Dr. Allerton at Amenia, and was often in public office.

Caleb Dakin lived near Coleman's Station, where his grandson, Amasa D. Coleman, now owns the same place.* He was the son of Elder Simon Dakin, who came from the vicinity of Boston, previous to 1751, to Spencer's Corners,† where he organized a Baptist church and was the pastor many years.

Jonathan Darling lived west of Leedsville.

Isaac Darrow, Esq., owned the farm, afterwards owned by Eli Mills, Esq. He was the father of Azariah Darrow, of South Amenia.

William Davies was a resident of Amenia several years, and owned large tracts of land in different parts of the town. He came into the town when a young man, and engaged in teaching a school at the Square, and had his home in the family of Mr. Benjamin Leach, whose daughter he afterwards married. While a resident of Amenia he built the brick house, now the residence of Allen Wiley, where he lived a few years, and then removed to Poughkeepsie.

Mr. Davies was son of Rev. Thomas Davies, a devoted Episcopal clergyman, of whom there is published a brief memorial; and the mother of Mr. Davies was the daughter of Joel Harvey. Gen. Thomas L. Davies and Wm. L. Davies, of Poughkeepsie, are his sons.

* Mr. Dakin was the father of Caleb Dakin, and of Mrs. Coleman, and of Mrs. Barrett, wife of Ezra L. Barrett. Caleb Dakin bought his farm of Allen Sage. Jacob Dakin, Esq., of Northeast, and Simeon Dakin, Jun., were sons of Elder Simon Dakin.

† Spencer Corners, in Northeast, a little north of the old line of Amenia, was so named from Philip Spencer, Esq., the father of Hon. Ambrose Spencer, who resided there many years.

Benjamin Denton, Esq., was one of the earliest settlers near the City. He was the son of Richard Denton, who was the fifth Richard Denton in the family in succession. The first of the five is without doubt the Richard Denton, spoken of by Rev. Cotton Mather in this history, as having come from England about 1640.

Benjamin Denton's wife was Rachel Wheeler, whose family was from Holland. His sons were John and Benjamin, Jun.

Joel Denton, the father of Joel Denton, Jun., was a landholder in 1791.

Capt. David Doty and Lieut. Reuben Doty are mentioned in the military record. A large family of this name were residents of the southeast part of the town. Samuel Doty was Collector for Amenia Precinct in 1762. They were from Old Plymouth colony, and came to this town from Sharon.

Capt. Samuel Dunham lived on the Sturges-Sanford place, and had a forge a short distance south of The Narrows, using the water power of that small stream. He was from Sharon. He married the daughter of Ephraim Lord, who had a right in the ore bed, which furnished the ore for Dunham's forge. This was previous to the Revolution.

Benjamin Ellis, from Barnstable, Mass. (?), lived in the Oblong, and was engaged with Captain Reed in the manufacture of iron.

Stephen Eno, Esq., was a teacher in this town several years, and Commissioner of Schools.* He became a successful lawyer, and was a model for the accuracy of his knowledge and the precision of his habits of business. He was a gentleman of the old school, and died

* Stephen Eno was Moderator of Town Meeting in 1798. It was considered the highest honor to be made Moderator of Town Meeting.

at an advanced age at Pine Plains, the residence of his son, William Eno, Esq.

Lewis Delavergne came to Amenia, evidently from Washington in this county, while his son, Henry, was quite young, and became owner of the mill property and one thousand acres of land, which he purchased at a low price. He was the brother of Dr. Benjamin Delavergne, and was the father of Henry, who retained the mill, &c. It is said that the emigrant ancestor, who was of a superior family in France, came to this country in consequence of having been engaged in a duel.

It was Dr. Delavergne who built the dam near the road to Kent. It is called to this day "The French Doctor's Dam," and the remains are there. The object is supposed to have been to flood the lands above in order to convert them into a meadow. Dr. Benjamin Delavergne took a prominent part in the beginning of the Revolutionary war, and was Major in the Fourth Regiment of Dutchess County Militia.

Jacob Evartson, a native of New Jersey, came to Amenia in 1762, and purchased the south half of Lot No. 33 of the Nine Partners,* about 1700 acres, and in 1763, he built the large brick house, afterwards the residence of Mr. Daniel Carpenter, about a mile south of the City post-office. Mr. Evartson's ancestors were from Amsterdam, in Holland, where they had for three generations held the position of Admiral in the Dutch Navy.†

Mr. Evartson, in the cultivation of his lands and his domestic service, had a large number of slaves. He conducted also a store at the City for several years.

* John Evartson became the owner of Lot No. 33, and sold the north half to John Clapp and Henry Franklm, and the south half to Jacob Evartson.—Lib. 6. p. 222 The portraits of Jacob Evartson and his wife are now in the mansion of the late Gov. Smith in Sharon, and show them to have been of fine personal appearance.

† Admiral Evartson—one of these—received a sword from the hand of William, Prince of Orange, afterwards William III. of England, in testimony of his heroic and loyal conduct.

In 1776, Mr. Evartson was one of the Deputies from Dutchess to the First Provincial Congress of New York. About 1795, he removed to Pleasant Valley where he died in 1807.

Mr. Evartson's wife was Margaret, daughter of Geo. Bloom. His son, George B. Evartson, removed to Po'keepsie. His daughter, Margaret, was the wife of Governor Smith, of Conn., and his daughter, Maria, was the second wife of William Davies. He had several other children.

John Farr was the owner of George Kirby's farm in 1787.

Jabez Flint, Esq., a native of Windham, Conn., came to Amenia in 1781, to the farm where his son, Augustus, now resides. He had served four years and three months in the continental army. His wife was Judge Paine's daughter. He died in 1844, aged 88 years* His military service is mentioned in another place.

Eliphalet Follet was a landholder in 1768. Married to Elizabeth Dewey in 1764.

Joshua Fish, Jonathan Fish, and Peter Fish, Esq., were residents of the north part of the town (as it was) and near the Bockee's and Bryant's. None of the family have resided there at a recent date.

Capt. Robert Freeman, father of Jonathan and Solomon Freeman, owned at one time, 1757, a considerable tract of land in the east part of the town.

John Garnsey, the father of Deacon John Garnsey, Dr. Ezekiel Garnsey, and others, was from New Haven county, Conn., and settled where the family still remain. He was one of those courageous and conscientious patriots that never feared anything but what he thought to be wrong†

* Esq. Flint's sons were Philip, Alfred, Morris and Augustus.

† Peter Garnsey, a brother of John, helped to raise a regiment, and served through the war as quarter-master. Another brother, Isaac, also served through the war.

Roger Gale resided in the west part of the town as early as 1776. It was one of his descendants who went from this town, and founded and gave name to the town of Galesburgh, Illinois.

Elisha Gilbert was a citizen of Amenia in 1762, and held land near the Eben Wheeler place in 1771. Samuel was the father of Medad Gilbert.

Thaddeus Gilbert was a resident in 1777. Eliakim was the father of Daniel Gilbert.

Gardiner Gillett, Joel Gillett, and Abner Gillett are mentioned in another place as early settlers in Amenia. Richard Gillett married Nelly Elliot in 1766. Joshua Gillett married Mary Knickerbacker in 1768, and lived in the south part of the town and east of the creek.

The Goodrich family was in the part of the town now Northeast.

Joel Harvey, Joel Harvey, Jun., and Obed Harvey, lived in the east part of the town, near Sharon valley. It is supposed that Joel Harvey built the brick house, where Eben Wheeler lives.

Capt. Robert Hebard, from Lyme, Conn., purchased a tract of land (about 1,000 acres), lying in the Oblong east of Ameniaville, and including a part of Allen Wiley's farm. He was the father of Benjamin, Robert, and Daniel. Deacon Benjamin Hebard was for many years a leading and valuable member of the church at the Red Meeting House. Daniel Hebard, Esq., removed to Poughkeepsie. His wife was the daughter of Col. Colbe Chamberlain. His sons were John J., Henry, and Edward.

Capt. Isaac Hillard, from Redding, Conn., lived at Amenia Union. He was the author of several political and poetical tracts. One of his political tracts attracted the notice of Jefferson, who sent to Mr. H. a complimentary letter.

Rufus Herrick was chosen Collector and one of the Constables at the second Precinct Meeting. Stephen Herrick appears on the Town Record in 1766, and Benjamin Herrick in 1767. The family lived north of the church at the City, where they built the brick house, now Robert Hoag's. Rufus Herrick was an active officer in the war of the Revolution.

Stephen Hitchcock, son of Samuel, settled first in Sharon, and afterwards where his son, Homer, resided. His brother, Amariah, purchased of Dr. Chamberlain the place, now the home of Geo. H. Swift, where he died. Samuel purchased near—a part of the same place—then sold to his brother, and went to Schodack. Thomas went also to Schodack. Solomon traded several years,—as early as 1800—at Amenia Union, and the place was called “Hitchcock's Corner.”

The family was from Norwalk, Conn., and had come to Sharon in 1752, and settled on the farm where the late Southard Hitchcock resided.

Benjamin Hollister settled in the east part of the town in 1741, on the farm where Norton Hollister lived, and where the sixth generation of the family is now living (1875). Benjamin Hollister, Jun., built, about 1775, the house near Leedsville, where his son, Nathaniel Hollister, resided. The family was from Glastonbury, Conn.

Deacon Asa Hollister, a native of Glastonbury, and an eminent christian of the Puritan style, settled on the hill, west of Noah Wheeler's place, about 1780. The family were at Wyoming at the time of the massacre, when his father and brother were killed, and himself and the other members of the family escaped. He was the father of Rev. Allen Hollister, Asa, Jun., and Timothy.

Ichabod Holmes was an early settler near the Square.

Capt. Stephen Hopkins, a grandson of Edward Hopkins, one of the first settlers of Hartford, and second Governor of the Colony under the charter, was born in Hartford in 1707, and came from Harwinton to Amenia previous to 1748.*

The part of the town where he settled was considered central. The Meeting House was built near his residence, on land given by him for that purpose, and the Old Burying Ground, which was also given by him, was near the same, where he and all the early settlers of that part of the town were laid. His house was southwest of the burying ground, and was reached in later years by a lane from the highway.

Mr. Hopkins was the first Supervisor of Amenia in 1762, and was elected also in 1764, 1765, and 1766. He died in 1766, leaving six sons.

This was an educated, christian family. The distinguished part which they took in the war is recorded in its place. Michael Hopkins was the first Town Clerk, and served in that office till 1773, when Roswell Hopkins was chosen and served till 1783; and was also Supervisor in 1777 and 1778, and he served also as a magistrate more than thirty years. And all of them were influential in the church.

Roswell Hopkins' house was afterwards the Totten house, where W. P. Perlee now lives.

Col. Michael Hopkins died in 1773, aged 39, and his wife died in 1771. She was the daughter of Rev. Wm. Worthington, of Saybrook, Conn., and was the sister of Gov. Smith's mother.

Roswell Hopkins, Esq., removed to Vermont and died in 1817.

* He bought Lot 32 of the Nine Partners, and took a deed of the north half dated 1744.

Gen. Reuben Hopkins, youngest son of Stephen, died in Illinois in 1819.

Hon. Hannibal M. Hopkins, son of Reuben, was living at an advanced age in Goshen, N. Y., in 1872.

The only representative of this numerous family now resident in Amenia is Mrs. Peter B. Powers, daughter of J. Milton Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler's mother* was a daughter of Roswell Hopkins. Benson Hopkins Wheeler, also a son of Anthony and Selina (Hopkins) Wheeler, is living in Chenango county, N. Y.

John Hinchliffe, who set up at the Steel Works the first carding machine in this part of the land, was from Saddleworth, Yorkshire, England. He retained in a very marked degree the colloquial dialect of Yorkshire. He was a man of intelligence and considerable reading.

Ebenezer Hurd, Jun., came here from Dover about 1794, and purchased of Judson the farm now belonging to Mr. Chaffee. The family was from Rhode Island.†

Asa Hurd was his brother, and Mrs. Moses Swift and Mrs. Pray were his sisters.

Jeremiah Ingraham, the father of George and Thomas, purchased lands of William Davies in 1789. Thomas purchased of Evertson about 1772, and George Ingraham purchased of Davies in 1794. They were from Bristol, Rhode Island. They had a numerous posterity, who have carried a healthful christian influence into other parts of the land.

Mr. Samuel Jarvis, of Redding, Conn., came to Amenia in the latter part of the century, to the farm where Hiram Cooper lives, and his residence was the

* "Selina, wife of Anthony Wheeler, and daughter of Col. Roswell Hopkins, died in Feb. 20, 1797, aged 23 years." "Hannah, wife of Cyrenus Crosby, and daughter of Colonel Roswell Hopkins, died June 16, 1789, aged 21 years." Mary Hopkins, daughter of Roswell, was the wife of Daniel Reed, son of Capt. James Reed. It was Daniel Reed who built at the close of the war, in 1783, the house now owned by Amariah Hitchcock at Amenia Union. He was father of the late William Reed, and Mrs. Nancy Reed Jerome and others.

† Ebenezer Hurd's wife was Rebecca Phillips.

old house near Mr. Cooper's. He was of an English family of good standing, many of whom adhered to the royal side in the Revolution. It was a brother of Mr. Jarvis, who led the British into Danbury, when they burned it, and who, after the war, went to Canada, and entered into the service of the Crown.

Sturges Sandford, a son of Mrs. Jarvis, came to Amenia with him.

Samuel Jarvis, who is mentioned in another place as going over to the English in the time of the Revolution, married the daughter of Judah Swift, and was the father of Launcelot Jarvis.

Thomas Jenks, the father of William and John Jenks and others, was a resident of Leedsville, and owned the old house and mill, built by John Delamater. *He died 17...*

Samuel Judson, from Woodbury, Conn., father of Azariah Judson, of Hillsdale, first settled on the Barlow farm, and about 1769 he purchased the farm now owned by J. S. Chaffee. His grave is near the Steel Works.

Simeon Kelsey lived at South Amenia, and owned the mill, which he sold to Capt. Reed in 1781. Some of his descendants are in Sharon.

Stephen Kinney, from New Preston, Conn., settled in the west part of the town, near the Separate, in 1740. He was one of the first in the religious congregation there. He was the father of Roswell Kinney, Sen., and the grandfather of Roswell Kinney, Jun.*

Elijah Kinney lived north of the City.

Hezekiah King was one of the first settlers from New England. He built a house near Amenia Union, afterwards called the "Karner House," and died in 1740. There is a meadow near, called now "King

* Roswell Kinney, Jun., father of George Kinney and others, near the Separate, was accidentally killed while in middle life.

meadow." The Town Records of Sharon have this entry:—"Deacon Hezekiah King departed this life, Oct. 9, 1740."* There was no church at Amenia Union then, and Mr. King was probably connected with the church in Sharon.

Samuel King lived on the farm now owned by Mr. Wiley. He was evidently an intelligent and trustworthy citizen, and was one of the patriotic leaders in the beginning of the war.

Herman Knickerbacker died in 1805, aged 93 years, and was buried in his own field, on land now owned by Joseph Belden. A large number of graves are there of former residents in that part of the town.

Joseph Gillett died in 1770, aged 29. He had married Mary Knickerbacker in 1768.

John King was cotemporary with Samuel King. They were here as early as 1762 (from Greenwich?).

Ebenezer Knapp built a house at the Steel Works, and owned the celebrated orchard of Mr. Sackett. Mr. James Tanner's farm was a part of the Knapp farm.

Capt. Joshua Laselle was a resident of Amenia as early as 1769. He purchased of William Young the place now owned by Myron B. Benton.

Benjamin Leach, a tanner, resided at the Square, and built that substantial brick house, afterwards for many years a tavern.

Dr. Alpheus Leonard was the successor of Dr. Allerton in the practice of his profession. He was a man of accurate knowledge, and had a happy faculty of illustrating his lessons to his students in medicine, and others who came to him for instruction.

Ephraim Lord's house was on the place now occu-

* L. of C. * This is the oldest obituary record on the book.

pied by the Amenia Seminary ; and he owned lands in several other places in the town.

John Lovel, the father of Capt. Joshua Lovel, from Rochester, Mass , came into this part of the country in 1745,* and settled first where Mr. Geo. H. Swift now lives, and in 1770 removed to Sharon.

Dea. Meltiah Lotrop lived on the place which was afterwards the home of Judah Swift. That is a part of Oblong Lot 45, which Mr. Lotrop and others had bought of Cadwallader Colden. He was the father of Walter Lathrop, Esq., and the grandfather of Silas, Daniel, and Walter, Jun. Esq. Lathrop† was a man of extensive reading.

Silas Marsh, Esq., called "Lawyer Marsh," was son of Rev. Cyrus Marsh, of Kent, Conn., and brother of Mrs. Anne Delamater. He lived some years near Sharon Station, and awhile in the Winchester house. He was an active patriot.

Nathan Mead, of Greenwich, Conn., was here as early as 1740, and had purchased the lands now owned and occupied by J. Franklin Mead, who is the fifth generation there. Nathan Mead was the father of Job Mead, and the grandfather of Job Mead, Jun. These latter—father and son—served awhile in the Revolution.

The late John King Mead, Esq., son of Job Mead, Jun., and descendant of Samuel King, was in the Legislature in 1844.

Thomas Mygatt, the father of Preston and Thomas Mygatt, came from New Fairfield in 1772, and purchased the lands where he resided, and which are still in the possession of the family. He was a descendant in the sixth generation of Deacon Joseph Mygatt, one

* Sedgwick's "History of Sharon."

† Esq. Lathrop's wife was sister of Stephen Warren.

of that company of Puritans, who immigrated to this country in 1633, and who came with Rev. Mr. Hooker and his company in 1636,* and commenced the settlement of Hartford. He was a wise counsellor of the new Commonwealth. Thomas Mygatt's father was a citizen of Danbury, and was distinguished for his enterprise and thrift. The Mygatt's in New Milford are of the same family.

Eli Mills, the father of Eli and Henry and Mrs. Rundall, came, about 1784, from Wiltonbury, now Bloomfield, once a part of Old Windsor, and purchased of Isaac Darrow, Esq., the farm where the late Eli Mills, Esq., continued to reside till his death. He was a descendant of Peter Mills, one of the early residents of Windsor, who was a native of Holland,† and who was also the ancestor of the Mills in Kent. The name in Holland—"Mueller"—has nearly the same signification as it has here.

Stephen Morehouse came in 1792 from New Milford, and purchased where his grandson, Julius Morehouse, now resides. The large brick house on the place was built by Jacob Bogardus, who had been some time a merchant in Sharon.‡ His sons were William, Zalmon, Garry and Henry.

Alexander Neely was Post Master at North Amenia, which is now called Northeast Centre.

Sylvanus Nye, from Falmouth, Mass., purchased in 1774 the farm which had been the home of Joseph Chamberlain, and continued to reside there till his death. His wife was daughter of Dea. Moses Barlow.

John Osborn, the father of Isaac Osborn, was a resi-

* It was that memorable journey through the wilderness of more than an hundred miles by about one hundred men, women and children on foot, which is recorded in the history of Hartford.

† H. R. Stiles' "History of Windsor."

‡ Sedgwick's "History of Sharon."

dent of South Amenia, among the earliest settlers. Isaac Osborn was a man of some reading and of unproductive ingenuity. His son, Melancthon, went into the war of 1812, and, it is said, was killed in the battle of Bladensburgh.

Capt. Nathan Osborn came into the south part of the town after the Revolutionary war. He was a Tory, for which his land in North Salem, Westchester county, had been confiscated; and he obstinately refused to take the necessary measures for its recovery, and died in poverty.

The family in the time of the war, like many others in Westchester, were several times robbed of their goods.

The Northrops were an important family in the town of Washington, and some of them were residents of Tower Hill, in the southwest part of Amenia. Enoch Northrop, from New England, was the father of Samuel, who settled on Tower Hill, on lands still held by the family. The sons of Samuel were William, Samuel, Benjamin, Nathan and John S. The burial place of the family is at Lithgow.

Abraham Paine,* son of Elisha Paine, of Canterbury, Conn., settled in Amenia 1741 or in 1742.

Joshua Paine, also of Canterbury, the father of Judge Paine and Barnabas Paine, Sen., Esq., came in 1749, and purchased in the east part of the town, on Lot 59 of the Oblong. He was a farmer and blacksmith.

Joshua Paine was nephew of Elisha Paine, of Canterbury, and cousin of Abraham mentioned above. All the Paines of Amenia and Northeast are descendants of Elisha or Joshua mentioned. Ichabod Paine was son of Rev. Solomon Paine, of Canterbury, and grandson of

* Abraham Paine took the first steps towards the organization of a church,

Elisha. They were all descendants of Thomas Paine,* who came to Plymouth from England in 1621. Ichabod Paine and Ichabod Paine Jun., lived many years north of Wassaic, on the farm afterwards owned by Lemam Cook.

Hon. Ephraim Paine was apprenticed in his youth to a farmer, whom he served with most exemplary fidelity. After the termination of his apprenticeship he made a voyage for trade to the West Indies and to Cape Sable, which gave him the means of a settlement in life, when he came to Amenia in 1753. The house which Judge Paine built for himself, lately the residence of Milton Hoag, is still standing (1875), by the turnpike, west of the gate. The land he purchased of Timothy Mead in 1772.†

Barnabas Paine,‡ Esq., father of Barnabas, Jun., and of Mrs. Bennet, of Canaan, Conn., lived where his son continued to reside, which is the place now occupied by Stoughton Moore. He had a knowledge of medicine, and was called Dr. Paine.

Elijah Park and Ebenezer Park, brothers, came to Amenia from Rhode Island in 1768. Their ancestors had emigrated from England in 1635, going first to Maryland, and thence to Rhode Island. Their residence in Amenia was near the ore bed at Sharon Station, called the "Park ore bed."

Ebenezer Park removed to Binghamton. †Elijah Park, who was a public-spirited citizen, died in 1795, and his son, Elijah B. Park, and his daughters, Louisa

* Josiah Paine, of Harwich, Mass., has compiled a genealogy of the posterity of Thomas Paine, of Eastham, the immigrant mentioned in the text. Abraham Paine, Rev. Solomon Paine, and Joshua Paine were great-grandsons of Thomas, the immigrant.

† Judge Paine sometimes preached in the absence of a minister. There is a reference in the old church record of some disagreement between Judge Paine and his pastor. It grew out of no censurable conduct, but out of a disagreement in biblical exposition too positively stated.

‡ Barnabas Paine in a few instances spelled his name, "Payen."

(Mrs. Benjamin) and Olive, died also in Amenia. The other sons of Elijah removed to Binghamton. Also the family of Elijah B. Park afterwards removed to Binghamton, where the family is now well represented.

George Park, Esq., brother of Elijah B., is living in Binghamton (1875).

Col. Brinton Paine, who is mentioned among the officers of the war, &c., lived near the City on the Sandford place. His relationship to other families of that name does not appear.

Abiah Palmer, father of Abiah W. Palmer, removed from Stanford to Amenia in 1789, and immediately took an active part in public business. His father's residence in Stanford was near the place where Cornelius Pugsley lives.

Edmund Perlee resided at the City, where he had a farm. His father left France, when about fourteen years old, without the consent of his parents, and after various fortunes settled in Amenia. Edmund Perlee served in the Revolutionary war, and afterwards became Major-General of Militia, and filled several important civil offices. Several of his sons were in the war of 1812.*

Yost Powers† was born in Naumburg, Germany, in 1731. About 1752, he emigrated to America, and settled first in Rhinebeck, whence he came to Amenia about 1758, and purchased, at several times, the lands still occupied, some of them, by the family. His sons were Jacob, John, Frederick, David, and Peter. His daughter, Catherine, was the wife of David Rundall. John was the father of the late John Powers. Jacob the son of Yost Powers, was a soldier in the Revolution,

* Edmund, Abraham, and Henry were in the service. Abraham was severely wounded in a battle on the northern frontier. The other sons were Walter and John.

† "Yost," or "Joest." This name is now represented by "Justus," the name of some of his posterity.

ary war. It is said that Mr. Powers came from Germany in the same ship with Peter Cline.

Nathaniel Peck, of Bristol, R. I., purchased the Wiley farm of Garret Row in 1795.

Jonathan Peck, of Rhode Island, was owner of the farm where Hiram Cooper lives, and sold it to Samuel Jarvis. He built the old house near Mr. Cooper's residence. His sister was the wife of George Reynolds.

John Pennoyer, of Sharon, purchased, in 1743, on the hill east of Sharon Station, on Lots 60 and 62 of the Oblong. He was the father of Joseph and the grandfather of Jonathan Pennoyer. Some of his land is held now by Mr. Sylvester Pennoyer.

Capt. David Parsons was a gentleman of the old school in his dress and manners. He was of the same family as the Parsons in Sharon, who came from Newtown, Conn., in 1763. His house was on the east side of the turnpike, a short distance south of where the turnpike gate now is, on Delavergne Hill, and had some appearance of style. Capt. Parsons died in 1812 of the prevailing epidemic. His sons were Joseph, Joel, Truman and David, and he had several daughters.

Joseph was the father of Warren, Mrs. Bird, and several others. Joel was the father of Mrs. Westfall, who was afterwards Mrs. Palmer. Truman was the father of Sanford Parsons.

Nathaniel, Thomas and Obadiah Perry, brothers, of Danbury, Conn., purchased together a tract of land in the southwest part of the town, and settled there soon after the close of the Revolutionary war. Nathaniel was the father of Henry Perry, and Thomas was the father of Thomas N. Perry and George M. Perry.

Mr. John Perry was from Huntington, Conn., and was a relative of Mr. Obadiah Perry and others in the

south part of the town. His place of residence was Perry's Corner, previously called Stebbins' Corner.

Stephen Ray kept a tavern near the State line, west of Sharon Valley, in a stone house which he built. He was born in England.

John Read, father of Charles and others, came from Redding, Conn., in 1804, and purchased the farm near Amenia Union, where the old stone house stands, and where he died in 1821. Mr. Read's father—Col. John Read—gave name to the town where he lived, which was then spelled "Reading."

The Reeds, of Amenia, were from Norwalk. In 1759, James Reed was one of a company of Connecticut troops, who passed through this town,* on their way to Canada, to the aid of General Wolfe in the conquest of Quebec. While on their way the company received news of the capture of Quebec, and were ordered to return. Mr. Reed was so pleased with the Oblong valley, through which he leisurely returned, that he induced his father, Mr. Daniel Reed, of Norwalk, to purchase for him some land† here, which he did where the late Philo Reed, son of James, resided till his death.

The brothers of James Reed, who removed here a few years later, were Ezra,‡ who lived where Huldah Bump did, Elijah, who owned the farm which he left to his son, Elijah, Jun., and Eliakim, who settled where his grandson, Newton Reed, now resides. Mrs. Warren, wife of Stephen Warren, was a sister of these.

The emigrant ancestor of this family was John Reed,

* This company of soldiers came up the west road from Dover, and halted for dinner at the brook, which comes down from Tower Hill. Capt. Reea often referred with interest to that place where he took his first dinner in Amenia. It was this mustering of troops for that campaign, which gave the poet Young some incidents in his poem, "The Conquest of Quebec."

† The land was 53 acres, which Daniel Reed purchased of Joseph Clapp, the original proprietor of Oblong Lot, No. 47, called "Clapp's Patent." Here the young man began with his axe only.

‡ Ezra Reed and his family went to Hudson and Cossackie.

who came from England in 1660. He had been an officer in the army of the Commonwealth, and came away at the Restoration. He died at Norwalk, in 1730, aged 97. It was that part of Norwalk, called "Five-Mile River," on the west line of the town. Here Mr. Reed prepared a room in his own house, where public worship was held till the church of Middlesex was formed, now in Darien, not far from Five-Mile River. He was a good specimen of the Puritan soldier, who held his sword in one hand and his bible in the other.*

James Reed married the daughter of Daniel Castle, Esq., in 1759, and built his house on the spot where Jas. H. Swift's residence now stands. This house was removed many years ago, and is now a comfortable dwelling, a tenant house belonging to M. F. Winchester.

Eliakim Reed's sons were Eliakim, Jun., who went to Greene county, Simeon who settled in Vermont, Silas and Samuel, who settled in Ontario county, Phineas, who lived in Hillsdale, and Ezra,† who remained on the homestead. Eliakim Reed's settlement in Amenia was in 1773.

Capt. Reed was a man of great sagacity and enterprise, and was very extensively and favorably known for his honorable dealing. He enlarged his landed estate, conducted a store, and a mill, and a manufactory of iron, and, in the time of the war, of steel. He was also one of the first in sustaining a religious society. Capt. Reed left a good estate to each of his ten sons and two daughters.‡

* His sword was preserved by the family several generations, and they have been a bible-reading family.

† The wife of Ezra Reed was a descendant of William Hyde and also of Capt. George Denison and Anne Boradil.

‡ The sons of Capt. Reed were Daniel, Reuben, Stephen, Elijah, Amos, Gilbert, Jesse, Jacob, James and Philo. Only Reuben, Stephen and Philo died in Amenia. The others removed to the western part of the state. The daughters were Mrs. Northrop and Mrs. Rose. They all left families except Philo.

David Rundall came from Horse Neck,* while a lad, about 1770, with an elder brother (Jared ?), to whom he was bound apprentice to learn the tailor's trade. About the termination of his apprenticeship, the war commenced, and he served two campaigns. He settled first north of Henry Peters, and in 1795 he removed to the place where he ended his days. "David Rundall and Catherine Powers were married Dec. 30, 1778.—Roswell Hopkins, Esq." He was the father of Jacob and the late Col. Henry Rundall, and Mrs. Mesick.

Daniel Rowley was from East Haddam, Conn.

Bezaleel Rudd and Zebulon Rudd were in the north part of the town, as it was; also Elijah Roe, Silas Roe, and Jeduthan Roe.

Philip Row, and others of that family, lived in the extreme northwest corner of the town, where the late Andros Row lived.

Joseph Reynolds was one of the earlier members of the church at the Red Meeting House.†

Jonathan Reynolds was a citizen of Amenia, residing in the west part of the town in 1762, and was chosen Assessor at the first Town Meeting.

Stephen Reynolds, the father of Dr. Israel Reynolds and others, resided a short distance north of the City church, previous to 1767, in a house, still remaining, which was evidently built before the Revolution.

His father was Francis Reynolds, of Horse Neck, and his grandfather was James Reynolds, who died at his house on a visit in 1767, and was buried at the City, at the age of 93. The ancestors of the family came from England in the reign of Queen Anne. Stephen

* Horse Neck—now Greenwich—was so called from a neck of land on the Sound, where horses were pastured.

† "Ruth and Lidia, children of Joseph and Lidia Reynolds, were baptized.—1752." Israel, son of Joseph and Lidia Reynolds, was baptized—1754."

Reynolds' wife was Rachel, daughter of Benjamin Denton.*

George Reynolds, the father of Jonathan P., George and Joseph Reynolds, was from Bristol, R. I., and bought, in 1795, the farm of Solomon Cook, where Jonathan P. Reynolds formerly resided.

Jonathan Sanford was the father of Geo. Sanford at the City.

Samuel Shepard was Collector of Taxes in 1764.

Israel and Jonathan Shepard were among the patriots of 1775. The family owned land now belonging to Mr. Bartram. Daniel Shepard resided near the north west part of the town.

Parrock Sherwood lived near Amenia. Asahel Sherwood was the father of Henry and William Sherwood, and resided in the south part of the present village of Amenia.

George and Frederick Sornborger lived near Northeast Centre.

Isaac Smith, from Hempstead, L. I., migrated to Amenia in 1757, and settled on the farm, known in the family as the "Square farm," where he died in 1795.

His ancestors came from Gloucestershire, in England, to Boston, in 1635-6, and removed thence to Hempstead, in 1639.

Mr. Smith was one of the Justices for the Crown before the war. He had five sons and six daughters. One of his sons, Hon. Isaac Smith, the late judge, became sole owner of the farm, where he lived till 1813, when he became owner of the Johnson estate at Lithgow, to which he removed, retaining at the same time the valuable property at the Square. His sister, Cath-

* The wife of Dr. Israel Reynolds was Deborah Dorr, who was a descendant of Wm. Hyde, and consequently her name comes into that remarkable genealogy compiled by Chancellor Watworth.

erine, was the wife of Jacob Bockee. Dr. John Miller twice married sisters of Judge Smith.

Judge Smith was very enterprising and efficient in promoting the interests of agriculture in Dutchess county, particularly in the production of fine wool. He died in the midst of his enterprises in 1825.

Platt Smith lived in the north part of the town, now Northeast.

Mark Spencer, who distinguished himself by his financial operations with the late Jacob Barker and Matthew L. Davis, lived with his father near Amenia Union. The family was from Guildford, Conn.

Elias Shevalier died in 1808, aged 95 years. He was a native of France, and came to this country when a boy, and was sold, as they called it, for a given time to pay his passage. He came to Amenia when just married, and acquired by his industry a good estate. He was a liberal supporter of the old church in its beginning. His sons were Peter, Elias, Jun., Abner, Richard and Solomon and he had several daughters. Abner was one of the deacons in the Baptist church.

The old brick house, belonging to Hiram Cooper, was built by the family, and the last of them, who resided in the town, was Abner second, who removed in 1832, with John Dunham, to Broome County. The name is very variously spelled.

Bowers Slason kept a tavern on the hill east of Sharon Station, which appears to have been a populous neighborhood. Peter Slason lived in South Amenia.

Capt. Roger Southerland lived in the west part of the town, near Adam's Mill. He was the father of Rodger B. Southerland, who married the daughter of Israel Totten, and lived where W. Platt Perlee now resides.

Judah Swift settled in Amenia in 1769. He was from Barnstable county, Mass., and moved to this place with his family by a team of three yoke of oxen.* He settled on the farm where his son, Moses, continued to reside. His son, Seth, built the house where Thomas W. Swift now resides, and continued there till his death. Samuel Swift and Nathaniel, sons of Judah, removed to the western part of the State. The son of Moses Swift was Thomas. The sons of Seth were Moses, Henry, Eleazer Morton and Thomas W. Henry Swift was a lawyer in Poughkeepsie. E. M. Swift was a lawyer in Dover. The others were residents of Amenia.

Thomas and Timothy Stevens were early residents of the south part of the town. Thomas was the father of the late William Stevens, who removed to the western part of New York.

Stephen Trowbridge, of Danbury—now Bethel—was an early resident living north of Perry's Corner. He was the father of Stephen B. and Alexander Trowbridge.

The Thompson family† came to Stanford about 1746, and some of the family soon after came into Amenia. Their ancestors emigrated from England in 1637. "Being Dissenters, they came to this country quietly to enjoy freedom in their religious principles, and to avoid the persecutions and exactions to which they were subjected." Samuel Thompson was a citizen of Amenia in 1769, and Benajah Thompson, who lived where R. R. Thompson, Esq., now resides, went from this town to the Legislature in 1804, etc. Dea. Seth Thomson lived about a mile south of the City P. O.

Israel Totten resided where W. P. Perlee now lives.

* Moses was seven years old when the family came here, and rode one of the oxen on the journey.

† Enos Thompson Troup, a former Governor of New York, was of this family. The birthplace of Judge Smith Thompson is at the Square.

He began here as a laboring man, and acquired a good estate by his personal industry. His wife was Esther Warren, from Norwalk, Conn.

✓ Stephen Warren was from Norwalk, Conn. He owned the farm of J. T. Sackett, and built about the time of the Revolution the house now on the place. His wife was sister of Eliakim and James Reed. His sons were James, Stephen, and Lewis. His daughters were Mrs. Shubel Nye, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Munson, and Mrs. Ketchill Reed. *and Mrs. Jones*

Samuel Waters, Esq., was a Justice of the Peace several years. His wife was Eunice Atherton.

Capt. Thomas Wheeler, from Woodbury, Conn., settled, in 1749, on the place now owned by his great-grandson, Erastus Wheeler.

Capt. Noah Wheeler, the son of Thos., was a positive, energetic man, and of stern patriotism. He distinguished himself in battle, at Fort Independence. His sons were Noah, Wooster, Anthony, Newcomb David, Eben and Alanson. They were all farmers and obtained good estates.

Capt. Thomas Wheeler was engaged in the French War, and while serving on the northern frontier was taken sick and returned towards home. He reached Fite Miller's tavern, in Columbia county, and died Sept. 1st, 1757, at the age of 44 years.

Col. Anthony Wheeler was an active man in political affairs during the War of 1812, and was also very efficient in his command of the 29th regiment of Militia.

Elijah Wheeler, the father of William and Cyrus Wheeler, was from New Marlborough, Mass. He died in 1774, aged 41.

Robert Willson (son of Robert) came from the north of Ireland, when quite young, and lived in Connecticut

till his marriage, when he settled in Amenia, a little north of where his son, the late Capt. Robert Willson, and his family had their home. The wife of the elder Robert Willson was of the families of Hinman and Thompson. The ruins of the log house where he lived are remembered.

Capt. Robert Willson, Jun., was well-known to the generation of fifty years ago. Reuben Willson was his brother.

Gilbert Willett was one of the Commissioners in the distribution to the proprietors of the Oblong Lots in 1731, and he became the proprietor of Lot 52, which is near Amenia Union. The name is subscribed to the patriot's pledge in 1775; and in 1794-1800, Gilbert Willett was a citizen of Amenia and a magistrate, and kept a store in the west part of the town. These—two or three persons—are supposed to be of the same family, and, it has been said, they were of the same family as Col. Marinus Willett.

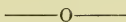
Amariah Winchester, from Kent, lived near Amenia Union. Mary Follett, of Kent, married Mr. Hatch, and they went to a new home in the valley of Wyoming, and were there at the massacre. He was killed and this young widow of 19 years returned to her old home, through excessive trials and dangers, so torn and sunburnt that her friends did not know her. She became the wife of Mr. Winchester, and came with him to Amenia in 1781. Their sons were Henry, Milo and David.

The Woolsey family lived on Tower Hill. It was Richard Woolsey, a devout man of Mr. Knibloe's congregation, who expired on the threshold of the meeting house. He had repeatedly expressed the expectation of instant death.

Capt. William Young removed to Amenia Union from Leedsville,* and set up an extensive tannery. He built the house which is part of the tavern, and afterwards built the house which became the property of Dr. William Young Chamberlain. Capt. Young was from Orange county. His wife was Helena, daughter of Nicholas Row, Sen.

* He had moved at Leedsville. The former
 project of Capt. Young, located by Capt.
 Rowland in Dec. 1792. The house still
 standing, 1850; with a long story
 (though added to) is supposed to
 have been built by Capt. Young.

JUDICIAL RECORD.



The Justices of the Peace, previous to the organization of the Precinct, were Castle, Hopkins, Bockee, Winegar, Smith, Garnsey and perhaps some others.

The Record, kept with admirable clerical skill by Roswell Hopkins, Esq., show the "Actions determined"—civil cases—in his official service, which was more than thirty years, to have been 2,564. In 1777, there is a hiatus in the Record, which indicates partly the time when Col. Hopkins was absent in the war.

This Record shows us also the judicial penalties of that age, and it must not be entirely hidden that there were some convictions where the penalty was "lashes upon the bare back." These convictions were by a Court of Special Sessions, held by three Justices. In these courts we find associated Samuel Waters, Josiah Gale, Joseph Carpenter, of Stanford, James Tallmage, Philip Spencer, &c., some of whom were from other towns. The fine for breaking the sabbath, for drunkenness, and for a profane oath seems to have been three shillings, which went to the poor; and though the treas-

ury was not much helped, these convictions were supposed to be a proper expression of public sentiment against the crimes punished.

March 24, 1784.—A man was convicted of stealing a horse, saddle, and bridle, and was “adjudged” to be whipt 39 stripes, and the court issued a warrant to Reuben Allerton, Constable,* who “immediately executed the same.”

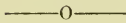
This is the only case in which the execution of the sentence is recorded. A part of the penalty in most cases was that the criminal be transported out of the county.

There is also a record of the marriages by Esq. Hopkins, which in 34 years numbered 182. Many citizens of the best social position were married by him—Daniel Shepard, Elijah Park, Daniel Hebard, Reuben Allerton, David Collin, David Rundall, King Mead, and others. It is understood that there was a peculiar grace of manner in the marriage ceremony of this christian magistrate.

It will not be inferred that this pleasant service was taken out of the hands of the clergymen of the town—only in a small measure—when it is remembered that Rev. Mr. Knibloe, in 26 years of the same period of time, married 320 couples.

* This was Dr. Allerton, a very humane man. But such was the law.

SLAVERY.



The German settlers and the Delamaters had their slaves, who were treated by them with exemplary kindness, and instructed by them in the facts and duties of religion. Jacob Evaratson had a large number—as many as forty, it is said. Several of the early immigrants from New England and other parts were also the owners of slaves.

Most of the slaves in the town were manumitted in the manner and under the conditions prescribed by law.

In 1788, Ezra Reed gave freedom to his slave, Joel, and his wife, and their son, Jeduthan.*

In 1792, Samuel Swift gave freedom to his slaves, Pomp and Mela, “in consideration of their faithful services;” and in 1795, to his slave, Hannah, and her child, Zephaniah. In 1794, Judah Swift made free his “negro man, named York.” In 1794, Jacob Bockee gave freedom to his slave, “Simon Le Grand.”

It was very fit that Mr. Bockee should give this practical expression of his views of slavery, who a few

* Jeduthan is remembered by some now as a much-respected citizen.

years later introduced in the Legislature a bill for the abolition of slavery in this state. This important beginning resulted in the complete abolition of slavery July 4th, 1827.

They were not permitted to make any free and cast them off, who were not able to provide for themselves. There were, therefore, in 1824, a few years before the complete termination of slavery in this state, 32 slaves in Amenia.

“ DUTCHESS COUNTY, STATE OF NEW YORK.—This may certify that Joel Mandore, a negro man, formerly a servant of Ezra Reed, and his wife, now a slave to the said Ezra Reed, and their son, Jeduthan,* a slave to the said Ezra Reed, who is disposed to manumit the said slaves, and it appears to us that they are under the age of fifty, and of sufficient ability to maintain themselves, and of good moral character.

Certified by us whose names are hereunto subscribed :

ISAAC DARROW, } Justices of
ROSWELL HOPKINS, } the Peace.

ELIAKIM REED,* } Overseers of the Poor of
BARNABAS PAINE, } the Town of Amenia.

Amenia, Oct. 13th, 1788.”

“ Know all men by these presents, that I, Jacob Bockee, of Amenia town, in the county of Dutchess, and state of New York, for, and in consideration of the faithful service, and other good causes thereunto, do manumit and discharge from my service, or that of my heirs forever, a certain slave, named Simon Le Grandè.

“ In witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of April, seventeen hundred and ninety-four.

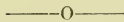
JACOB BOCKEE.

“ Witness, William Barker.

“ The above is a true record.—William Barker,
Town Clerk.”

* Jeduthan lived on the Darling place, near Wassaic, and became a respectable citizen.

INNS AND STORES.



It was the custom, almost universal in former days, in New England and New York, that the Inns, or taverns, were kept by citizens, who were the most wealthy and respectable of the people, very often by men who had large farms and possessed the means of providing ample accommodations. The public houses were not then, as now, located at the intersection of highways, and there was not in the early days of Amenia any village in the town to give local attraction to a tavern.

Daniel Castle, Esq., kept a tavern at South Amenia, in 1758. Roswell Hopkins, Esq., was keeping a tavern when the first town meeting was directed to be held at his house in 1762, and the town meetings were held there in 1763, and 1764. In 1765 to 1773, the town meetings were held at the house of Col. Michael Hopkins. After that year—Mr. Hopkins having died—at Timothy Green's, Major Simeon Cook's, Capt. Platt's, Abiah Palmer's, and Capt. Wardwell's.

In 1764, the following persons in Amenia Precinct received license to keep a tavern—Samuel Smith, Rob-

ert Johnson, Jonathan Reynolds, Edmund Perlee, Stephen Ray, Widow Eunice Wheeler, Samuel Snider, Michael Hopkins, Simeon Wright, Stephen Johns, Ichabod Paine, Benjamin Hollister, Jun., Daniel Castle.

In 1790, eighteen citizens of Amenia received a permit to keep a tavern. Among these were Caleb Dakin, Abiah Palmer, Stephen Reynolds, Edmund Perlee, Jacob Evartson, Elisha Barlow, Zerah Beach, Noah Wheeler, Lemuel Brush, and William Davies. Some of these were without the obligation to provide lodgings.

One of the first stores established in Amenia was Capt. James Reed's, some years before the Revolution.

It was a short distance north of his dwelling, and the place is marked now by a few locust trees, the offspring of those planted at the time when the building was there. This store was resorted to for trade by people from a distance and over a wide extent of country.

Stores were kept also at an early day at the Square, and near the City, at Neeley's, at Delavergne's, and at Adam's Mills, and near the Red Meeting House.

The articles of trade were few, as domestic manufactures supplied so many of the articles now obtained wholly by exchange. Cotton, that enters so much into commerce now, was then scarcely known, and very few woollen fabrics came into trade—no hats, or shoes, or mittens, or any ordinary clothing. The trade was limited to a few articles of foreign manufacture, with tea, wine and brandy, and the products of the West Indies.

Much of the exchange was by barter, very little money was used and that was silver.

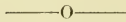
Wheat was the first article of commerce that brought in money; first, by exportation in bulk by way of Po'keepsie; and after the mills were perfected, it was manufactured and sent in flour.

A serious part of the labor of every farmer and his team was the transportation of his produce to Po'keepsie, and the return loads of heavy goods, rum, molasses, sugar, salt, and lately plaster.* This burden is now exchanged for freights on the Harlem Railroad.

The people did not know the meaning of bills, checks, drafts, &c., till they learned by sad experience the story of continental bills. Money was hard and heavy. Capt. Reed at one time, when he was buying wheat pretty largely, requested his neighbor, Lieut. John Boyd, to bring from Po'keepsie a certain bag of silver money. Mr. Boyd brought it on horseback carrying it before him, resting on the pommel of his saddle. When he rode up to the doorsteps of the store, an attendant lifted the bag from the saddle, not without some exertion, and carried it into the store. This is certainly in happy (?) contrast to the present convenient method of almost dispensing even with paper money, let alone the silver.

* It is not out of the memory of the oldest inhabitant how certainly at a proper season of the year the returning wagon brought a supply of clams. A large number of the families of this town sent annually for a supply of shad to the East Camp, following the traditionary trail of the German immigrants from that place, who were the first settlers here and who kept up the traditionary habit of making an annual visit to their first home in America.

MANUFACTURES.



LEATHER.

The important business of making leather was conducted in several places in the town. It was one of those industries which were, in their location and extent, exactly suited to the wants of the people, who used the hides of their own cattle for their boots and shoes and harnesses. They did not buy or sell to any extent. Their leather was in proportion to their beef and veal and mutton, and the bark for tanning was near at hand. The skins were carried to the tanner, and marked with the owner's initials, and returned to him after several months. Then they were carried to the shoemaker, who was often connected with the tannery, and the shoes were made to the measure of each foot. Or, more frequently, where there was a large family, the shoemaker "whipped the cat (whatever that means)," went to the house, and there made all the shoes for the family for a year. Other clothing also was made in this way.

There was a tannery at South Amenia, established by Joseph and Gershom Reed; one at Amenia Union, by William Young; one at the Square; one near Thomas Ingraham's, and several others in different parts of the town.

The trade of tanner and currier was considered very respectable and remunerative. The mechanical trades were all honorable.

CLOTH.

The manufacture of almost the whole of the cloth for the people was in the family. The wool and the flax were of their own production, prepared and spun by their own hands, and dressed under their direction, and fitted to their measure. The need of a new suit must have been anticipated a year, and the owner must wait and work for it all that time, before the suit would be ready to wear. But it *did* wear.

Every neighborhood had its shoemaker, and tailor, and hatter, and other mechanics, and these were scattered among the farms, and were not, as now, clustered together in villages, or driven, as many of them are, entirely out of the country. This explains the fact that the rural population of the town was greater then than it is now, and also the fact that any given rural district was able to sustain a much greater population than in the present style of commercial life.* All this wealth of home-manufacture is removed from the country, and

* This is verified by actual count. In one of the best agricultural districts of the town, we count twelve families, on contiguous farms, where the children—mostly grown to manhood—numbered 32. In the generation before this, the children from the same houses numbered 115, all of whom reached mature life, and half of whom attained old age. There is not in this district of about four miles in lineal extent any mechanic, but a wagon-maker, a blacksmith and a carpenter.

Although the older families have sent their sons and daughters to all parts of the land, and have become greatly diminished in numbers, there are yet more than twenty families living on lands which their ancestors held a hundred years ago, or more.

the sustentation of the people comes almost wholly from their land. This, on a fertile soil and with high culture keeps up the wealth of the few, who are necessary to conduct the business of agriculture, but on an unpropitious soil, the people, without domestic manufactures and left to agriculture alone for their living, become impoverished, and the population declines in numbers and wealth. This is true of many districts in our country.

It was a notable advance in the use of machinery when Mr. John Hinchliffe set up his carding machine at the Steel Works, in 1803. Wool had previously been carded by hand, but now it was brought from a great distance to this novel and curious machine, which was the first in this part of America.

LEEDSVILLE FACTORY.

After the beginning of the present century, the hazardous condition of American commerce, and the high price of imported woolen fabrics led enterprising men to enter upon associated schemes for the manufacture of woolen cloth. The Woolen Factory at Leedsville was established in 1809. Rufus Park, of Amenia, and Judson Canfield, of Sharon, Conn., were the principals in the company. The name "Leeds" was suggested by an Englishman, who was engaged in the works, and who had come from Leeds, in England.

The peace with Great Britain, in 1815,* put an end to the profits of manufacturing woolens in this country, and the company at Leedsville failed. The property

* The bell of the factory was rung loud and long when the news of peace arrived, but it was the death knell of its prosperity.

was purchased by Mr. Selah North, who established the business of cloth dressing.

THE FEDERAL COMPANY.

In the latter part of the last century, a company was formed in the northwest part of the town, which seems to have been for the purpose of general trade. It was called the "Federal Company," and they conducted the Federal Store. Judge Smith was at the head and there were about nine other associates. About 1803, another company was formed, including several members of the Federal Company, and, with William Davies at the head; and freighting business at Poughkeepsie was a part of their scheme. Previous to 1817, an association was incorporated, including some of the members of the former companies, and they also had their headquarters at the Federal Store. The first operation was carding wool, by horse power, but not succeeding in this, they removed to the stream* near Adam's Mills, where they erected a building for the manufacture of woolen cloth, and in which they used water power for the machinery. The late Capt. Robert Willson was President of this company, and they issued a considerable amount of small bills as currency. The business of this company was not profitable, and the property was sold to Lawrence Smith, who continued the work of cloth dressing.† These facts were received mostly from Capt. Samuel Hunting.

* The bridge where this turnpike crosses this stream was called "Federal Bridge."

† Associated capital in the manufacture of cloth has never been productive in this town. Some of our citizens were connected with the factories at Amenia Union, in which there was a total loss of more than \$35,000.

IRON MAKING.

It seems probable that the important business of making iron was begun in Amenia some time before the Revolutionary war, and when the smelting of the ore was mostly by the forge. On the small stream that passes through the mountains west of Leedsville, and a little south of the gap, Capt. Samuel Dunham had a forge. The ore used in these works seems to have been taken from the present Amenia ore bed,* as Mr. Dunham had then an interest in the Nine Partners Lot 32.

It is also evident that there was a forge at the Steel Works as early as 1770,† and the ore for that also was taken from the Amenia mines.

It was not till 1825 that the important works of N. Gridley & Son, at Wassaic, were commenced. From that time the manufacture of iron and the product of the mines have grown into large proportions, and contributed greatly to the common wealth of the town.

The Furnace at Wassaic was begun and built up by Josiah M. Reed, Lemah Bradley, Nathaniel Gridley and Noah Gridley. The site for the furnace—a few acres—and the ore bed had been purchased by Elijah B. Park, and sold to the above parties for six thousand dollars.

In 1825, the youngest of these parties began alone among the rocks, with a single team of oxen, the construction of works, which have arisen to so much importance. It was not without some doubtful struggles against adverse circumstances that success was gained. But all these men took hold of their business with their right hands.

* In 1743, a record was made of a right of way to the ore bed, which Waterman sold to Samuel Forbes.

† Historical Record.

In 1844, the property came into the hands of Noah and William Gridley, and on the death of William, into the possession of the survivor.

There was no house in the place or any building except the remains of an old saw mill near the furnace dam.

The furnace was at first called "Johnny Cake Furnace," from the local name of a street in the vicinity.

The making of plows was one of those trades, which were required in every agricultural district. The plow was of wood, and the wearing part of wrought iron, the share being frequently sharpened by the blacksmith.

Moor Bird was a skillful plow maker, and made cradles also. The cast-iron plow was introduced in the early part of this century, and the first manufacture of them in this town was by Mr. Calvin Chamberlain, at the City.

THE STEEL WORKS.

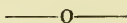
Near the beginning of the Revolutionary war, the importation of iron and steel being cut off, home manufacture was necessarily stimulated; when Capt. James Reed and a Mr. Ellis entered upon the manufacture of steel, at the place which has since retained the name of "Steel Works," and they prosecuted the business some time with success. They obtained the iron for their purpose in pigs from Livingston's Furnace at Ancram, which was a blast furnace, and the first in this part of the country.* These efforts at home manufacture were considered patriotic as well as profitable.

* Isaac Benton was a skilled workman in this newly-organized manufacture, and received a high compensation.

2. The price paid for coal was twenty shillings a load; but it does not appear how many bushels constituted a load. The price for carting iron from Livingston's furnace was ten shillings for twelve hundred, which seemed to make a load.

3. Steel was sold for a shilling per pound at retail; at wholesale it was sold for £4 per hundred, and refined steel at £5 per hundred. Captain Reed, in 1776, purchased Harris' cythes at 84 shillings per dozen, paying in steel, and retailed them at ten shillings apiece.

THE SHARON CANAL.



About the year 1821, the New York and Sharon Canal was projected, and many of the enterprising men of Amenia took a lively interest in it, though some of the more cautious ones looked upon the scheme as visionary.

This Canal was to be constructed from Sharon Valley, down by the Oblong river, and by the Swamp river to the sources of the Croton in Pawling, and by the Croton to the Hudson—or from the lower part of the Croton to the Harlem river. It was also contemplated that the Canal would be extended north through Salisbury to Great Barrington, in Massachusetts.

The preliminary survey was made, and about sixty thousand dollars was contributed. This money was deposited with a broker in New York, who failed, which discouraged the managers, and the scheme was abandoned for awhile. In 1826, the project seems to have been renewed, and a Report of the Canal Commissioners was made to the Legislature of surveys and estimates by an engineer employed by the Commissioners. The estimated cost of the Canal to the Hudson was \$599,232,

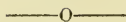
and by the other route to the Harlem river, it was \$1,232,169. This was for the whole expense of excavation, embankments, aqueducts, locks, bridges and everything to the completion of the work. A survey was made of the ponds and streams, which could be made to supply the canal with water, and also an estimate was given of the transportation to be expected. We find no record of the project after this.

We find a curious statement in the Commissioners' Report, viz. :—"It has lately been discovered that Lehigh coal answers an excellent purpose in smelting iron," and it is estimated that in five years the transportation of this coal for the iron works in Sharon and vicinity would pay sufficient toll to maintain the canal. The survey established the interesting fact that the Weebutook and all its upper waters can be made to flow into the city of New York.*

Cyrus Swan, of Sharon, Joel Benton and Thomas Barlow, of Amenia, William Tabor, of Pawling, and Mark Spencer, formerly of Amenia, were among the active projectors of this enterprise.

* In looking for resources for a further supply of water to the city of New York, it has been suggested that this stream may be required. The waters of the Weebutook in the south part of the town are nearly 500 feet above tide. There is documentary evidence that the project to carry the waters of the Croton river into the city of New York was first suggested by the projectors of the Sharon canal.

TRAVEL AND POST ROUTES.



The means of travel and communication in the last century were in strange contrast with the present. There was not even a stage coach or mail carriage known in this part of the country. The only post road in the State in 1789 was between New York and Albany, and the number of Post-offices in the State was only 7. It was not till 1823 that the Post-office at Amenia Union was established, and that was on a mail route which extended from New Milford, Conn., to Pownal, Vermont, through Sharon and Salisbury, and the principal towns of Berkshire county. The mail was carried through each way once a week, most of the time in a one-horse wagon. Previous to that, the letters—the few that were written—were carried by private hands, and the newspapers—from Hartford and from Poughkeepsie—were carried by post-riders on horseback. New York could not be reached in less than two days, the journey there by merchants and others being on horseback. Heavy goods came by sloops to Poughkeepsie. The line of stages which was run between Poughkeepsie and Litch-

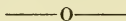
field, through Amenia, turned a large current of travel into that new channel.

The Dutchess turnpike, so useful to the people of Eastern Dutchess and Litchfield counties was made in 1805, against the protest of some who in opposition built the "Shunpike."

There is a stone standing by the road, which leads from the Steel Works to Dover, and where the stream comes down from Tower Hill, on which is inscribed "183 miles to Boston." Another stone is standing near the parsonage in South Amenia, inscribed "35 miles to Fishkill," "179 miles to Boston," "29 miles to Poughkeepsie." These were set up in the time of the Revolutionary war, while the British held the country below the Highlands, and this was one of the principal routes between the Eastern and Southern States, by the way of Fishkill, where they crossed the Hudson. There were one or two seasons when salt was brought from Boston by this route. Officers of the American army and of the French army passed this way between the Eastern States and the Headquarters on the Hudson. The Hessians were marched through the town on this road to Fishkill, where they crossed the river, when they were removed from Massachusetts to Virginia in 1778.

In the early part of this century, "mile boards" were placed along the Oblong road, which told the distance to New York. The one at Amenia Union said "98 miles to N. York." The measure was probably from the Battery, and by a route less direct than the present route.

AGRICULTURE.



Agriculture was the chief business of the early settlers, as it has continued to be of their successors. The two objects which induced their emigration to this newly-opened field—as we have been told by a cotemporary witness—were the enjoyment of religious independence and the possession of fruitful lands. They were not refugees from justice, nor broken merchants, nor bankrupt politicians, nor wild adventurers, nor rapacious speculators; neither very poor, nor very rich; every one of them expected to gain a subsistence by the honest labor of his hands. And this productive labor was directed chiefly to the cultivation of land and to those mechanical trades, which are essential to the convenience of an agricultural community. It was very attractive to them that the title to the land was without dispute, and it also seemed to many of them a healthful atmosphere of freedom, where there was no interference of the civil authorities with the interests of religion.

Much of the tillable land was easily cleared, and responded bountifully to the simplest cultivation.

There was plenty of timber for building and all other purposes. The land was well watered with springs and rivulets, and larger streams for mills. The mountains and valleys were the same then as now which made it a most natural expression of the poet, when he looked over the landscape, to call the name of the town *Pleasant*.

It is a reasonable supposition that the sagacious pioneer looked forward with hopeful prophetic vision to the days of agricultural prosperity, which were realized by those who have followed him in his labors.

None of the early laborers here failed to gain a comfortable subsistence by the slow and sure gains of the farm, and none of them attained extravagant wealth; and through the subsequent generations of the citizens of this town there has been a more equal distribution of property among the people than in most other towns of Dutchess county.

The first product of the land, which brought any income, was wheat, which began quite early to be exported. Mills were constructed, as has been stated, first at Leedsville about 1740, and soon after one at the Steel Works by Waterman, and several others at different places in the town. In 1760, Henry Clapp,* of Rumbout (Fishkill), sold to Thomas Wolcott,† of Crum Elbow (Amenia, then a part of Crum Elbow), a mill site, where the stone mill now stands, and Simeon Kelsey built a mill there. Capt. Reed purchased this, and enlarged it by adding to it the mill at the Steel Works, which he had also purchased. The mill of Lewis Delavergne was also constructed early.

* Henry Clapp and Elias Clapp were sons of Joseph Clapp, the proprietor of Lot 47 called "Clapp's Patent."

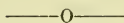
† Thomas Wolcott, the father of Luke Wolcott, was a blacksmith at South Amenia, and already had a saw mill on the stream opposite the mill site.

The production of wheat was greatly stimulated about the end of the last century, when, owing to the disastrous wars in Europe, flour bore enormous prices. Large crops were raised here which brought in an unusual income.

After the wheat crop began to fail, attention was turned more to corn, and for a few years to barley, and then to oats. About the beginning of this century, the farmers of Dutchess county began the use of plaster, and the cultivation of grass, which was followed by an increased number of fattening cattle and sheep, and an improvement of the land. In 1825, the production of fine wool became of general importance, and, in 1835, the number of sheep in Amenia was 21,761, and in Dutchess county 230,000. These statistics are given, only to compare the earlier with the later farming of these lands; and not to extend the history over these later years.

The price of wheat in 1776 was five shillings a bushel, and that was the price of a day's work in harvesting. Butter was ten pence per pound. The wages of a hired girl at housework or spinning was five shillings a week. They were not servants as a class, but were many of them equal in social position to their employers.

THE WAR OF 1812.



The losses to the people of Amenia by the utter depreciation of continental money was not so serious as to those in other places, as only a few here were engaged in any business that required much capital; but the demoralizing influence of the war upon society and the disturbance of industrial pursuits were manifested for many years, and it was some time before the business and social interests of the people were restored to their former prosperity.

It is understood that the people of Amenia took an intelligent interest in the great questions which agitated the country previous to the final ratification of the National Constitution, and in all those national subjects, which awakened so much discussion and no little dissension previous to the War of 1812. All those differences of sentiment, which divided the nation into two parties, were sharply defined here. The embargo and the other restrictions upon commerce were not regarded as affecting their pecuniary interests, not being a commercial

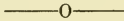
people, but they took distinct and positive ground on those matters of national interest, which seemed to dictate a choice between the British and the French nations in any close political affinity. The voters of the town were almost equally divided on these questions for many years.

When war was declared in 1812, there was only a partial response here to the call for men, though there was no violent opposition to the measures of the Government. A few men were enlisted into the regular army one or two volunteer companies were raised, and sent to New York, and drafts were made from the uniform companies and other militia. Col. John Brush commanded the troops from Dutchess county, which were stationed at Harlem Heights. Henry Perlee was Captain of one of the companies. Jacob Rundall served as Captain, and William Barker and Samuel Russell served under Col. Anthony Delamater. Jesse Barlow was Captain of a volunteer company and was stationed on Staten Island. Archibald Allerton served as lieutenant in a company of light horse. Of others in the service only a few names are found by diligent enquiry. William Snyder, Elijah Stevens, Russell Stevens, John Jenks, Elijah Andrews, Ashbel Porter, Cornelius Jordan, Isaac Latimer, Seymour Haskins, Alexander Haskins, Asa Hollister, Hezekiah Lewis, Eben Wheeler, Solomon Wheeler, Simeon Hall, George Reynolds, Jonathan P. Reynolds, Milton Mason, and Enoch Anson. Lieut. Obed Barlow died near New York of fever at the age of twenty-one years. Lieut. Phenix Bockee was taken sick and died in Poughkeepsie. Sergeant Daniel Shepard returned home sick and died there. Colby Chamberlain returned and died at home. The gallant conduct of Capt. Henry Brush is mentioned in another place ; also the death of young Spencer.

There was very great imperfection in the sanitary arrangements of the military service in that war, in very marked contrast with those of our own late terrible struggle. There was then also lacking, perhaps, something of that moral enthusiasm, which sustained the soldiers of this war.

It is surprising, that with such inadequate resources which the nation then possessed, that such important ends should have been attained in the War of 1812, which Mr. Lossing calls "the second War for Independence."

PROFESSIONAL MEN.



There has scarcely been a lawyer in the town who has made the practice of his profession his chief business, though a considerable number who were natives of Amenia, and received their early education here, have become eminent at the bar and on the bench. The people of Amenia have been specially indisposed to litigation. From the earliest history of the town to the present, they have been noted for their freedom from family rivalry, from a desire of pre-eminence in wealth and social position, and from ambitious ostentation, and for their mutual confidence and good will to each other. This is the testimony of an eminent lawyer who went out from them.

Barnabas Paine, Esq., was known as Dr. Paine, and he is supposed to have received a medical education, and appears to have been a man of considerable learning. But he was not at any time exclusively occupied in the practice of his profession.

Dr. John Chamberlain was considered a skillful physician, and practiced some time in Poughkeepsie.

Dr. Doty practiced some time in the east part of the town, and Dr. Delavergne, the "French doctor," as he was called, lived in the town some years.

Dr. Reuben Allerton was a thoroughly-educated physician, and was engaged in an extensive practice when he died at the age of 54. His son, Dr. Cornelius Allerton, spent most of his professional life at Pine Plains.

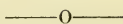
Dr. Cyrenus Crosby was the successor of Dr. Allerton in the west part of the town, and was a man of excellent attainments.

Dr. Alpheus Leonard, from Canton, Conn., who succeeded Dr. Allerton in the Oblong, was accustomed to have under his tuition a class of medical students.

Dr. Elmore Everitt succeeded Dr. Leonard.

There has been since their day a succession of educated and skillful physicians in the town, who are remembered by the present generation.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS.



The people were from an early day in their history indebted largely to their public libraries for the high degree of intelligence which they attained. In Mr. Knibloe's congregation a library was collected at a very early period, which was kept at Amenia Union. After that a larger and more valuable library was incorporated by the name of "Union Library," which was kept at Leedsville. This was a collection of the most instructive literature in the language, and the books were read by a large proportion of the families in the town. Four times a year was there a "library day," when all the books were returned and others were drawn out. On these occasions a large company were collected to attend the drawing. A public library was also instituted at Ameniaville of similar literary works.

The common schools of the town were of an excellent character, and were resorted to by all the families, where they received a solid, though limited, education, and there were some excellent private schools.

Besides Rev. Mr. Barnet's private instruction to young men—which has been mentioned—a number of private schools for young women were instituted at different times. Mrs. Knies a daughter of Dr. Thomas Young, Miss Neely, and later Miss Susan Nye, assisted to improve the tone of female education; and many of the youth of both sexes were sent to the best schools in New England.

It was not till 1835 that the Amenia Seminary began its excellent work. This was the natural outgrowth of a settled conviction in the minds of the people of the value of a higher education, and the advantages of it have been such as might be expected to a people so disposed, and from the eminent character of the instructors, who have been connected with the institution. These advantages were not only to the families of Amenia, whose sons and daughters were assisted there in their qualifications for usefulness at home and for honorable positions in other parts of the land; but large numbers have come here from other towns and distant places for their education.

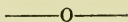
The alumni of this institution have carried its good name into all the land. The late Rev. Bishop Clark has said, "that in every one of his widely-extended fields of labor, he has met the students of Amenia Seminary, not only in the ministry, but filling their proper places in the other learned professions." And they all seem to cherish a happy remembrance of the scenes which surrounded them here, and of the incidents of their school-day life—associations which are never forgotten.

Some of those connected with the institution were the late Rev. Bishop Clark, Rev. Bishop Haven, Prof. Charles K. True, D. D., Rev. Joseph Cummings, D. D., President of Wesleyan University, Rev. E. O. Haven,

Chancellor of the University of Syracuse, Rev. President Merrick, D. D., Rev. J. W. Beach, D. D., Rev. Cyrus Foss, D. D., Rev. Dr. Kidder, Rev. A. J. Hunt, Rev. A. S. Hunt, D. D., Rev. H. N. Powers, D. D., Prof. Alexander Winchell, LL. D., and many others, both teachers and pupils, of whom it is too nearly contemporary to speak.

The present rising condition of Amenia Seminary speaks for itself.

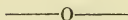
THE "AMENIA TIMES."



It is not out of place, and, perhaps, not out of time—as illustrating the early tendency of the people of Amenia to intelligent study—to make this record, that the "Amenia Times" was instituted by the people themselves, and has been sustained by them as a necessary medium of business and literary intercourse. The conduct of this journal, so long under the direction and moulding hand of one of Amenia's sons, has been such as to reflect the taste of a cultivated community, and its good name is cherished with a reasonable pride by the citizens of the town.*

* The "Amenia Times" was established in 1852.

THE OLD HOUSES.



There are only about ten or twelve of the old dwellings, which were built more than a hundred years ago, the few visible monuments of that period of our history. An old house is in itself a history. It seems to speak to us of the successive generations that have lived and died there.

The house of Mr. Nye's family is supposed to have been built by Joseph Chamberlain, who died in 1765.

Deacon Barlow's house, now belonging to Albert Cline, was built a little previous to the Revolution.

The house built by Capt. Reed, in 1760, now removed, and belonging to Mr. Winchester.

Mr. Gridley's Red House, near Wassaic.

The house which makes a part of the residence of N. Reed.

The Capt. Boyd house, belonging to G. H. Swift.

The large stone house, built by Hendrick Winegar, in 1761.

The house of brick and wood, built by Johannes Delamater and Mary, his wife, in 1761, now belonging to M. B. Benton.

Judge Paine's house, where Milton Hoag lived which is almost ready to fall down.

The Evertson house, occupied by Mr. Putnam, was built in a superior manner, in 1763, by Jacob Evertson, and is well preserved.

The residence of the Reynolds family, north of the City church, now in ruins, is undoubtedly one of the ante-revolutionary structures.

Besides these dwellings, there is one edifice, which has outlived all memories, traditions and records, and that is the Old Separate Meeting House. It is evidently from its name—which points to a known period in church history—and from the absence of all tradition and record concerning it, one of the oldest structures in this town or vicinity.

It is the last remaining specimen of that style of church architecture, which prevailed for rural churches an hundred and fifty years ago; and although it was renewed and altered inside many years ago, the outward form is the same. It represents no christian community, and is claimed by none. It seems to be purposely forgotten. It stands as a significant memento of the time—which has come—of forgetfulness of old *separations*, and of all dissensions among Christians. Let it stand.

We cannot go and look upon these old dwellings without passing some of those older and more enduring dwellings of those families; well-chosen places where with filial reverence they made the graves of their fathers.

That was a hundred and twenty years ago and more, and every year some have been added to that number, from successive generations, which keeps up the bond between the earlier residents here and ourselves.

Mr. Sackett was buried in 1746, the earliest burial here which is recorded. In that old ground near Amenia Union, so beautifully situated, Uldrick Wine-

gar, the patriarch of the family, was buried in 1754. at the age of 102 years. Eve, the wife of Hendrick Winegar, died in 1749. The stone at her grave seems to be the oldest which is known in the town. There is a stone in the ground near Coleman's, where the Wheelers and Collins and others are buried, which is also dated 1749. The name on this stone is Ruth Curtis; and she was apparently one of the ancestors of the family of Capt. Thomas Wheeler.

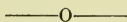
The old ground at the City is still the burial place of many families there, although there are some private grounds within the bounds of that congregation. The old burying place at Amenia, which contains so many honored names is cherished with affectionate care by the friends, though they have selected and arranged with excellent taste a new cemetery for the present and future generations.

Many there are in these old dwelling places, who have no other written memorial than what we read on their monumental stone, which affirms what has been already said, that the unwritten life of this people is immeasurably greater than all that is written or remembered of them.

But the brief lines in an old grave-yard have an intensity of historic interest, which is not found in any printed volume; whether we rub off the moss of one hundred and twenty years, or pause over the grave of one so recently laid there, that we are unwilling to speak the name. We are touched with the very brevity of the record, cut in enduring stone, where it will be studied, after all these written memorials are forgotten.

THE END.

SUBSCRIBERS TO THIS WORK.



These names are inserted in the book as a part of the history. A large number of the subscribers have a hereditary interest in the early residents of Amenia, and many others have become intimately connected with the people of the town by their residence here or by other associations.



Adam, Wm.
Allerton, Archibald M.
Allerton, David
Allerton, Mrs. Byron
Allerton, Lois
Allerton, Orville H.
Andrews, Mrs. Henry

Baird, Rev. C. W.
Barlow, Henry
Barlow, Franklin
Barlow, Jesse
Barrett, Oliver
Barrett, Rev. Myron

Barnum, John D.
Bartram, Barney
Bartlett, Wm. H.
Bartlett, Wm. S.
Bassett, Joseph
Belden, Joseph
Benson, Joseph H.
Benton, Charles E.
Benton, Joel
Benton, Ezra R.
Benton, Myron B.
Benton, O. A.
Benton, Simeon
Bennett, John

- Bertine, Robert
 Bird, Milo
 Bockee, Phenix
 Bostwick, Charles E.
 Bowdish, Mrs. S. A.
 Bowne, Sarah E.
 Boyd, John
 Boyd, John G.
 Bronson, Asahel, D. D.
 Bryan, Ezra
 Bullions, A. B., D. D.
 Bumster, James W.
 Bump, Julia
- Carpenter, Mary S.
 Carpenter, Isaac S.
 Carpenter, Jacob B.
 Carter, Frederick
 Chaffee, Jerome S.
 Chamberlain, Rev. Albert
 Chamberlain, George
 Chamberlain, Oliver
 Chamberlain, Morton S.
 Chase, John H.
 Church, Wm. L.
 Clark, Douglass
 Clark, Edgar
 Clark, Henry
 Clark, Lorin
 Cline, Albert
 Cline, Franklin
 Cline, Edward E.
 Cline, J. H.
 Cline, Mrs. Maria
 Coleman, Amasa D.
 Collin, Mrs. Louisa
 Conklin, I. Hunting
 Conklin, Nathan
 Conklin, Wm. B.
 Conklin, Amariah, M. D.
 Crane, George E.
- Crane, Mrs. Munroe
 Cornwell, Wm. I.
 Cummings, Rev. Dr. J.
- Dakin, Wm. P.
 Darke, Charles
 De Lacey, Wm. L.
 Dedrick, W. J.
 Denniston, Rev. James O.
 Deming, Ralph, M. D.
 Durant, Mrs. Harriet
- Eaton, L. F.
 Edgerton, Sheldon
- Fitch, Arthur
 Fitch, Rev. Silas
 Flint, Augustus
 Flint, Charles A.
 Frissell, Rev. A. C.
 Frost, Prof. S. T.
 Frost, Hyatt
 Fry, Simeon
- Gilbert, Lorenzo
 Greene, Louis C. M. D.
 Gray, Frank
 Gridley, Noah
 Gridley, Edward
 Griffin, Theron
 Guernsey, De Sault, M. D.
 Guernsey, John
 Guernsey, Samuel
- Hatch, L. P.
 Hatch, Mrs. R. C.
 Haskins, John
 Hammond, John
 Haven, E. O., D. D.
 Historical Society, L. I.
 Hitchcock, Amariah
 Hitchcock, Charles
 Hitchcock, E. R.

Hitchcock, Homer
 Hitchcock, Solomon
 Hebard, Newton
 Hebard, George E.
 Hollister, Hiel
 Hollister, F. Reed
 Hollister, Milo
 Hollister, Asa
 Hoagland, A. R. G.
 Hope, Anna
 Horton, Emily
 Hotchkiss, Fred. A.
 Hufcutt, George
 Hunt, Rev. A. J.
 Hurd, Egbert
 Hurd, Mrs. James
 Hutchison, E. N., M. D.
 Hutchison, Rev. S. Nye

Ingraham, George W.
 Ingraham, Henry C. M.
 Ingraham, Josiah P.

Jackson, W.
 Jarvis, Milton B., M. D.
 Jarvis, T. Newton
 Jenks, Frederick
 Jerome, J. H., M. D.
 Judson, John E.

Kendall, Rev. J. L.
 Kelly, Cereno
 Kelsey, George A.
 Kempton, Eugene
 Ketcham, Rev. Wm. E.
 Killey, Mrs. N. S.
 Kirby, George
 Kinney, George
 Knibloe, Stephen

Lacey, Romanzo

Lambert, D. E.
 Lambert, George
 Lambert, John
 Lathrop, George
 Leonard, Hon. W. H.
 Lossing, Benson J., LL. D.
 Lovel, C. S.
 Lovel, John
 Lovel, Henry R.
 Lovel, Thomas
 Lowe, S. B.

Mallory, Edward
 Marks, Cornelia Barlow
 Marsh, Mary Reed
 McCord, Rev. W. J.
 McCue, Hon. Alexander
 Mead, I. N., M. D.
 Mead, J. F.
 Mercereau, George
 Miller, Jasper
 Morehouse, Chauncey
 Morehouse, Julius
 Moore, Stoughton
 Morse, I. A.
 Morgan, Henry
 Munsell, Joel
 Mygatt, Abraham
 Mygatt, Ambrose

Odell, S. G.
 Ostrom, John

Paine, Ichabod B.
 Paine, Jeremiah W.
 Paine, Platt
 Palmer, Augustus
 Parsons, O. W.
 Parsons, Truman
 Peck, Samuel
 Pennoyer, Silvester
 Penny, Darius

- Perlee, J. H.
 Perry, George N.
 Peters, Alfred
 Peters, Henry
 Pitcher, Mrs. Myra
 Place, Elizabeth S.
 Platt, John I.
 Powers, Edward
 Powers, H. N., D. D.
 Powers, F., M. D.
 Powers, P. B.
 Pray, E. H.
 Reed, Mrs. Betsey
 Reed, Miss E. C.
 Reed, F. Dana
 Reed, Daniel, M. D.
 Reed, H. V. D.
 Reed, John H.
 Reed, C. V. A.
 Reed, Ira W.
 Reed, Horace H.
 Reed, James C.
 Reed, J. M.
 Reed, J. Herbert
 Reed, Homer H.
 Reynolds, Hon. G. G.
 Reynolds, Justus,
 Reynolds, Warren
 Roberts, Virgil D.
 Rockwell, Almira R.
 Rockwell, L. E., M. D.
 Rose, Northrop
 Rose, S. P.
 Rose, Harvey M.
 Row, Henry
 Rundall, David
 Rundall, Henry
 Ryan, Thomas
 St. John, Dwight
 Sackett, L. B.
 Sayre, Rev. W. N.
 Scott, C. H., Jr.
 Seeley, Rev. A. H.
 Sedgwick, C. F.
 Sedgwick, Harry
 Sherman, David H.
 Sherman, Walter
 Sherman, Shadrach
 Sherman, S. W.
 Sharpsteen, Mary Barnum
 Sisson, J. B.
 Sornberger, Philander
 Soule, J. B.
 Smith, Henry W.
 Smith, Charles E.
 Smith, Richard
 Smith, Albert C.
 Smith, Myron
 Sprague, Col. W. G.
 Snyder, William
 Street, Chauncey
 Stevens, Milo
 Swift, Thomas W.
 Swift George H.
 Swift, James H.
 Swift, John M.
 Swift, Seth
 Tallman, J. P. H.
 Tanner, Jas H.
 Terrett, Rev. W. R.
 Taylor, Henry I.
 Taylor, R. B.
 Thomson, W. H., M. D.
 Thorn, J. S., M. D.
 Treadwell, D. M.
 Tripp, Daniel I.
 Van Alstyne, Wm.
 Van Dyck, Rev. L. H.
 Van Dyck, H. H.
 Van Dyck, Catherine C.

Watson, James E.	Willson, Samuel T.
Wattles, Charles	Willson, Israel R.
Walsh, Rev. J. J.	Willson, Edward P.
Webster, Benjamin F.	Williams, O. C.
Webster, Cynthia	Wiltsie, Abram
Westfall, J. W.	Wiley, Mrs. Ann M.
Wheaton, Homer	Wiley, Allen
Wheeler, Benson H.	Wiley, J. W.
Wheeler, Hiram	Williamson, Geo. A.
Wheeler, Burnet	Winegar, Norman
Wheeler, B. H.	Winchester, Milo F.
Wheeler, E. E.	Winchester, Erastus
Willson, Rev. R. E.	Winchell, Alex., LL. D.
Willson, Barak	Woodward, Richard

The Amenia Post Office.

A year ago enquiry was made, at my request, of the Department at Washington to obtain the date of the establishment of the Post Office, at Amenia.

It was for the purpose of making the record in its proper place in the History of Amenia. We have just received the answer. It should not be supposed that it usually takes so long a time for red tape to come around. The apology, for delay sent from the Department some time ago, was that there had been some confusion in the papers incident to a re-arrangement—something in its effects like house cleaning, I suppose.

I give the dates, and any one, who wishes to improve his History, can paste it in. It shows that the establishment of

this post office was much earlier than the office at Amenia Union which was in 1823.

P. O. Department Washington, }
JANUARY 26, 1876 }

Thompson Nase, Esq. Please find enclosed information requested.

Amenia, N. Y., P. O. Established 1807.

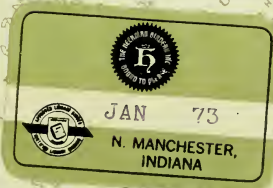
POST MASTERS.

Salmon Bostwick,	July 1,	1807.
Abiah Palmer,	May 29,	1810.
Thomas Payne,	Aug. 23,	1823.
Joel Brown,	April 26,	1834.
Hiram Vail,	June 18,	1841.
Elijah D. Freeman,	Oct. 20,	1844.
Isaac M. Hunting,	Feb. 22,	1849.
Hiram Vail,	May 2,	1849.
Geo. Conklin,	April 6,	1853.
William H. Grant,	May 4,	1861.
Abiah W. Palmer,	April 16,	1864.
W. T. Ingersol,	Dec. 21,	1865.
Oliver Chamberlain,	Oct. 1,	1866.
W. T. Ingersol,	April 2,	1867.
Henry I. Taylor,	Feb. 2,	1872.
Engene Kempton,	Aug. 19,	1872.

I also add a little to our family history. It is said of Wait Hopkins that he was an officer in Col. Seth Warner's regiment, of Green Mountain Boys, and was killed by the Indians, but we did not know where he was killed. I learn now that he removed to Bennington, before the war, and that he was killed on Dimond Island, in Lake George. It was probably in Sept. 1777, when an unsuccessful attack was made on a British garrison, with some loss to our men, says Mr. Lossing.

I have this from Col. J. W. Pratt, a member of the Bennington Historical Society, who has promised us more, and who had made many enquiries concerning the early families of Amenia. N. R.





JAN 73

N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA

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